Mac FORMAT ISSUE 244 February 2012

All your Apple needs

Mac FORMAT

>Mac >iPad >iPhone
>Issue 244 February 2012

iPAD S.O.S.

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50 ways to improve your Mac and iPad

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Make Lion work the way you want

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Apple uncovered

We go inside Apple's secret world

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Welcome...

to MacFormat, the UK's No. 1 Mac magazine

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Mac FORMAT
iPAD S.O.S
50 ways to improve your Mac and iPad

Subscribe to MacFormat to **save 35%** on the newsstand price and get *MacFormat* delivered to your door. **Turn to page 30 to sign up!**

As we were sending this issue to press we got the news that Apple was joining the Fair Labor Association to help improve working conditions in its factories overseas. This is a great step forward for Apple and for anybody who cares where their technology products are made and the conditions for the workers there. "No one in our industry is driving improvements for workers the way Apple is today," said Tim Cook, Apple CEO, in an internal email to all employees.

Apple does get more negative press about worker conditions than most technology companies, mainly because of its high profile and almost obsessive culture of secrecy, which is something we investigate on page 24 this issue. Apple is actually the first technology company to join the FLA, and I hope others soon follow suit.

Elsewhere this issue, you'll find 50 ways to improve your Mac and iPad, a guide to solving iPad problems and a great tutorial section stuffed full of great things to try out on your Mac. If you've just got a new Mac for the first time, don't miss our Top 10 tips for *Finder* on page 72 as well. I hope you enjoy the issue – I'm sure even the most experienced Mac user will learn something new from it!

Graham Barlow, Editor
graham.barlow@futurenet.com
twitter.com/MacFormat

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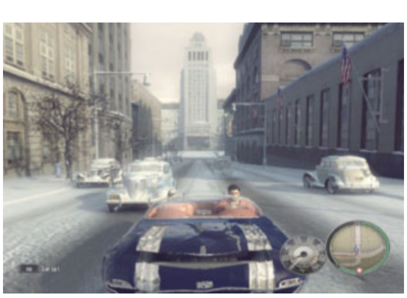

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Start up

Arise, Sir Jony

Apple's inspirational British designer receives recognition for his work

The icy cool and media shy Jonathan Ive - just call him 'Sir'.

© Rex Features

Apple's Jony Ive (44) has been appointed a Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (KBE), the highest UK honour for his work in design.

UK-born Senior Vice President of Industrial Design, Ive, was named a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in 2006, for his achievements in design and innovation. He's previously been declared Designer of the Year by the Design Museum London, and granted the title of Royal Designer for Industry by The RSA.

Accepting the honour, Ive said: "I am keenly aware that I benefit from a wonderful tradition in the UK of designing and making. To be recognised with this honour is absolutely thrilling and I am both humbled and sincerely grateful."

He will become Sir Jonathan Ive when his knighthood is conferred "by the touch of a sword by the Queen."

Ive joined Apple in 1992, becoming Senior Vice President of Industrial Design when Jobs returned in 1997. Between them, Jobs and Ive helped transform Apple from a company on life support to the consumer electronics giant it is today, beginning with the introduction of the iMac and the later launches of the iBook, MacBook, iPod, iPhone, iPad and more. Jobs described Ive as his "spiritual partner". Ive answered to no one other than Jobs. Design sits right at the heart of the company's DNA.

The British Consul General in San Francisco, Priya Guha, said she was: "Delighted that Jony Ive has been granted this exceptional honour by Her Majesty The Queen. Through his design of the iMac, iPod, iPhone and iPad, his work has transformed the lives of a generation of people, revolutionising the way people interact with technology. He epitomises the strengths of British design and innovation."

Born 1967 in Chingford, North East London and raised outside the capital. Ive's father was a silversmith, and his son spent much of his youth taking things apart to find out how they worked. Ive studied design at Newcastle Polytechnic (now Northumbria University).

After graduation he went on to co-found London-based design company, Tangerine, where he designed numerous products: washbasins, televisions, combs and more. He joined Apple in 1992 and now leads a hand-picked team of designers.

In a statement, Ive said: "I discovered at an early age that all I've ever wanted to do is design. I feel enormously fortunate that I continue to be able to design and make

>>MORE NEWS
For even more on the Mac, iPod and iPhone, visit
www.macformat.co.uk

APPLE IN PICTURES / It came from outer space...

PLANET iPAD

This iPad is about to be dropped from space - an astonishing 100,000 feet above the planet. Apparently it survived the fall, thanks to G-Form's Extreme Edge case.

products with a truly remarkable group of people here at Apple."

He wasn't always good with computers - then he found the Mac. "I remember being astounded at just how much better it was than anything else I had tried to use," he said. "The more I learnt about this cheeky, almost rebellious, company the more it appealed to me, as it unapologetically pointed to an alternative in a complacent and creatively bankrupt industry. Apple stood for something and had a reason for being that wasn't just about making money."

His influences include designer Dieter Rams' iconic Braun designs, while his own work has influenced all manner of product designs.

Speaking at the Design Museum in 2004, Ive said: "Simplicity speaks of the care of how our products are developed. It's not obvious how hard it was". Take an Apple product apart and you'll find many examples of his praxis. "Sometimes in the middle of (working on things) you get this nagging doubt and just think 'does anyone else really care?" Ive said. "We all work really, really hard and pursue solutions that are really difficult, so we can make good products."

"Ive is the most gifted and successful designer of his generation, a man who has done as much as anybody to demonstrate that design matters," said Design Museum director, Deyan Sudjic.

Six Ive products, including the original iPod, are included within the collection at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Ive rarely speaks to the media and has a cool and casual dress sense. Softly spoken, his deep care for what he does extends to his close personal relationships. That's why he was chosen to deliver a heart-breaking eulogy to Steve Jobs at Apple's "Remembering Steve" event last year, where he lamented the passing of his close friend.

Married with two children, Bentley-driving Ive holds 596 design and utility patents and honorary doctorates from The Royal College of Art, The University of Arts London, the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and Northumbria University.

APPLE IN NUMBERS

100 million

Number of Mac App Store downloads so far

"I can see my MacBook being permanently relegated to the study"

Graham Barlow experiences Apple-made-easy

Apple talk

Who's saying what?

The Recording Academy
www.grammy.com

"Jobs' innovations... revolutionised the industry and how music was distributed and purchased."

Steve Jobs wins a posthumous Grammy Award

Tim Bajarin
www.latimes.com

"The real innovation continues to come from Apple. It's unfortunate, but the majority of the vendors out there are just in the place where they have to play catch-up."

Apple leads the tech industry, analyst says

Julian Assange
www.wikileaks.org

"iTunes has a flaw in it and that flaw is automatically used by some of these [surveillance] companies to take over whatever computer system is running iTunes."

Wikileaks founder says there are spies in iTunes

Shahin Pirooz
www.centerbeam.com

"The exploding popularity of the Mac, iPhone and iPad is driving Apple technology deeper into the enterprise."

CEO explains why he builds enterprise solutions for Apple products

>> IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The future is right now

Graham Barlow

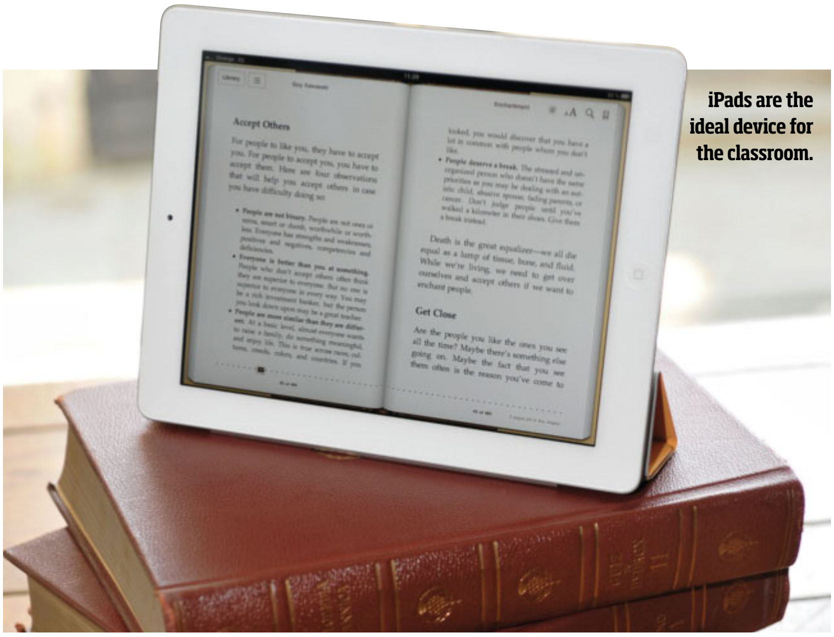
There I was, sprawled on my sofa over the Christmas period, enjoying (or rather, recovering from) the festivities by watching the new series of *Sherlock*. It was being streamed from the *iPlayer* app on my iPhone to my Apple TV. If you had told me four years ago, heck, even two years ago that I'd be watching internet TV streamed from my mobile phone on my television set, I wouldn't have believed you.

This really is futuristic stuff, and we're living it right now. What's even more impressive is that it didn't involve any complicated setting up. I simply turned on my Apple TV (using the *Remote* app on my iPhone), fired up the *iPlayer* iPhone app, selected *Sherlock* and within a couple of swipes it was playing. It wasn't until I listened to other people at work talk about what they'd have to go through to do something similar with an Android phone and a media streamer that I realised how lucky we are. Provided you stick to the Apple ecosystem it all 'just works'. Sure, you can do the same thing with a mix of other devices, but the amount of messing around with setting screens, rebooting and general problem-solving that would be required to get it firing on all cylinders boggles the mind. Worse still, people seem to just accept this as the way things are. But if Apple can get it so right then what's stopping other companies doing the same thing?

> *"This really is futuristic stuff, and we're living it right now. And it didn't involve any complicated setting up"*

Some people have a problem with Apple's 'closed' approach to what hardware can run its operating systems, and what software it allows on its Stores. But if that means I can perform complex actions, such as streaming media, from the internet via my phone to my TV, with nothing but a swipe of my finger then it's hard to argue against. You may have noticed that one thing was missing from my living room setup: a Mac. With iPads and iPhones connecting straight to Apple TV, I can see my MacBook being permanently relegated to the study at some point this year. The front room belongs to iOS now, and I think that's the way Apple wants it to be.

Graham Barlow's spent Christmas making so many things with Lego, he can now build a police station, a castle and a bear in his sleep.



iPads are the ideal device for the classroom.

>> APPLE FOR THE TEACHER

Please open your Apple textbooks

Expected announcement for education

Apple is expected to host an iTunes-related event in New York at the end of January, ushering in a range of improvements to its *iBooks* service and introducing education-focused initiatives, including provision of digital textbooks.

The event was scheduled for October, but with the passing of Steve Jobs the announcements were delayed. As revealed within the Walter Isaacson biography of the Apple co-founder, Jobs had a plan for education.

"His idea was to hire great textbook writers to create digital versions, and make them a feature of the iPad. In addition, he held meetings with major publishers, such as Pearson Education, about partnering with Apple," he wrote.

In advance of the event, MacRumors reported Apple had been filming a short series of interviews with textbook industry executives.

The decision to host the announcement in New York reflects that most major publishers are based in the East Coast.

Clayton Morris at Fox News suggests Apple will focus on iTunes University and Apple in education, observing that the new projects have been in development "for years" with Jobs "intimately involved" in the matter, prior to his passing.

Apple has a long-standing place within the education sector. The success of Apple's *iMovie* led to a resurgence of Mac use in schools worldwide, and the company's focus on developing solutions for educators has yielded strong results, not just in sales but also in pupil's educational attainment. Apple's iPod also opened doors in mobile learning.

Jobs believed the US education system to be antiquated, and that computers hadn't yet made their full impact on schools, and his vision included personalised lessons and immediate motivational feedback.

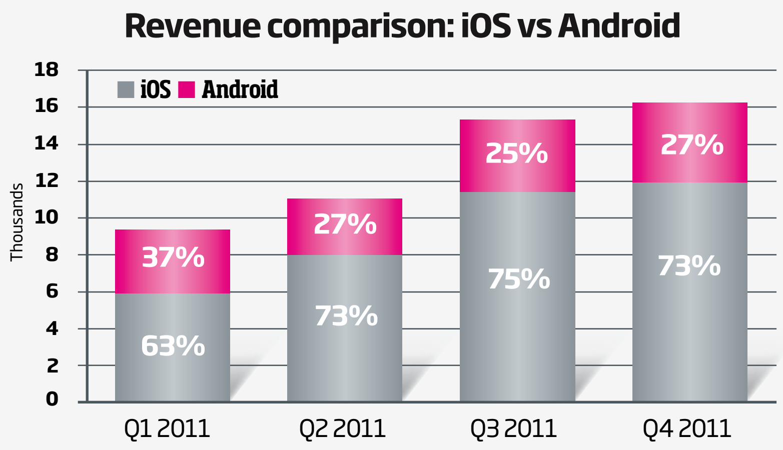
Be sure to check sister site, TechRadar.com, for the full information on Apple's revealed plans subsequent to the event, assuming it does take place in late January.

>> APPLE IN NUMBERS

4.2 million

iPhones sold through Verizon in the holiday period

APPLE IN NUMBERS / Ahead of the game



Source: Flurry Analytics, January - December 2011

Recent Flurry (www.flurry.com) data confirms Apple's iOS makes developers more cash than Android. "Running the numbers, we find that, on average, for every $1 generated on iOS, the same app will generate $0.24 on Android," Flurry explains. That's despite Android's strong smartphone market share. That's why developers choose Apple if they want to build a sustainable business.

FLASH SHOPPING SPREE

Apple's $500m flash memory

Apple acquires Israeli firm, Anobit

Apple has made a major $500 million acquisition of Israeli flash memory firm, Anobit. The latest in a series of technology and expertise acquisitions (PA Semi, C3 Technologies, Intrinsity), this purchase brings world-class flash memory knowledge in-house.

The fabless flash memory design outfit has designed a chip that improves flash drive performance through signal processing. This is already used in Apple's current flash-based devices, including the iPhone, iPad and the MacBook Air. In addition to the acquisition, Apple will also open a research and development centre in Israel, its first outside the US, prompting Benjamin Netanyahu to tweet: "Welcome to Israel, Apple Inc. on your [first] acquisition here. I'm certain that you'll benefit from the fruit of Israeli knowledge."

What does the Anobit's tech do? Forbes explains: "Anobit's MSP (memory signal processing) technology comprises proprietary signal processing algorithms combined with advanced error correction and innovative flash management schemes that improve endurance, performance and cost."

The company claims its tech can make flash memory last "roughly 10-15 times that of typical consumer-based NAND flash." Coupled with performance and capacity enhancements, this means Apple's devices should become even more responsive and durable than anything else on the market.

APPLE IN NUMBERS

1 million

FileMaker has sold a million units of database tool, Bento

HOT OR NOT?

The latest word from the Apple rumour mill

HOT: Apple all set to launch iPad 3 in March, this year
Rumours claim the next iPad's set to hit the shops in March, with a faster processor and Retina Display. It seems reasonable…

HOT: Thunderbolt support increases for iOS devices
Apple has gained many patents, including one that uses the fast connection to link an iOS device to your Mac. Makes sense to us.

NOT: Apple to launch iPad 4 in October, this year
Digitimes claims Apple intends launching a pro iPad in October. We've heard October iPad claims before, and they didn't pan out.

NOT: Apple to give their shareholder a dividend
Apple should offer shareholders a dividend. The problem? Much of the cash is outside the US and Apple hasn't paid out for years.

Apple on TV

The Mac is ready for its close-up

If Watson were around today he'd use a Mac. That's what the BBC tells us in the new series of *Sherlock*, which puts the great detective into 21st-century, London.

If you've spotted a Mac on television, then email macformat@futurenet.com and tell us all about it!

>> IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Life in the slow lane

Craig Grannell

My second computer was a step back from the first and the third was a step sideways. The first was an Atari 400. It had massive cartridges that you shoved into it; on firing up the machine, a game loaded instantly. By contrast, my second computer, a Commodore VIC-20, had a cassette unit, as did its supposedly hugely advanced successor, the C64. Programmes would take anything up to 20 minutes to load. This wasn't fun.

That brief diversion into 'retro' machines mirrors my current bugbear about computing: that we're always promised a faster, more efficient future, but the reality is often anything but. A case in point: I'm pretty sure in 2012 we should have lightning-fast Macs that instantly perform amazingly complex tasks, while we fly around using jet-packs. Instead, we're lacking not only in jet-packs, but also super-speedy machines. And that's largely because instead of aiming for efficiency, too many application developers gleefully fire gloss at our faces. In an effort to make apps more tactile, they bite off more than they can chew; combined with sub-optimal OS upgrades (hello, OS X Lion!), we end up with apps that look shiny but, from a usability standpoint, are more like stodge.

> *"I'm pretty sure in 2012 we should have lightning-fast Macs, while we fly around using jet-packs"*

Annoyingly, Apple is often the worst culprit. Since upgrading to OS X Lion, I've been frustrated by the insanely slow live search in *Numbers*, and the performance of *GarageBand* and *iPhoto* when doing, well, pretty much anything. These apps weren't speed demons before, but now they're at times bordering on unusable-and this is on a quite recent Mac stuffed to the gills with RAM.

Interestingly, my iPad never feels like this. Actions occur in real-time, rather than a pinwheel regularly spinning before my eyes like a multicoloured rage trigger. I want my jet-pack, dammit, but today's Apple seems keener on supplying one that's tablet-shaped and lining up the Mac to take its place alongside the VIC-20.

Craig Grannell is a tech writer that spends so much time playing games on his iPhone that he thinks his ruler is an 'infinity blade'.

>> WORLDWIDE DOMINATION

Apple has a grand plan for growth

The company looks to spread its wings further

Apple is going for growth. Newly appointed company CEO, Tim Cook, is leading the drive to build business in emerging markets, with Latin America the new target, led by Brazil.

The impact of *iTunes* on Apple's device sales is understood. The company's move to launch the iTunes Store in Brazil and 15 other countries should help galvanize sales, despite the higher cost of its products there.

Brazil is the world's ninth-largest music market. Existing legitimate digital music services have failed to fully eradicate music piracy. The IFPI estimates 45% of Brazilian internet users download music illegally each month. Historically, provision of *iTunes* services has helped reduce such piracy, while also wooing users into Apple's device ecosystem. Significantly, Apple and Foxconn are investing in local Brazilian manufacturing plant, though progress has been slow.

Most recently, Apple's focus on China paid off. Now the biggest iPhone market, China could become Apple's biggest customer later in the year. The country contributed $4.5 billion in revenue in Q1, up 270%.

Speaking to analysts, Cook explained his strategy for growth, saying: "We purposely put the bulk of our emphasis from an emerging market point of view on China to really learn, and then we're going to take that learning to other markets."

With the launch of iTunes Latin America, the company has made a significant effort to deliver the media ecosystem foundations for future growth in these emerging economies.

>> APPLE IN NUMBERS

€900,000

Italy fines Apple over handling of guarantees

Stockwatch

A look at the world of Apple business with Clem Chambers

Ever since Apple's spectacular take-off at the beginning of 2008, at the tail end of the credit crunch, Christmas has been a time for pause and reflection.

This year has seen Apple come back from a parlous looking position, where most stock watchers would consider the future rather bleak, to return to near-highs.

It's still in the sideways channel established when the summer crash and euro crisis kicked off, but it is once again showing the sort of strength that confounds bears like myself.

Clearly investors think the Christmas selling season was good, which it no doubt was, and iPad 3 is in the air.

Bulls will look for a break to $430 to eye a move to $500 and 'infinity and beyond'. Bears though will look to a move below $350 as the beginning of the end for Apple. Investing law says 'don't fight the tape' - for Apple the tape says 'up'.

Clem Chambers is CEO of ADVFN, Europe's leading stocks and shares website.

>> POWER-UP PROCESSORS

2012: faster Macs are on the way

Ivy Bridge processors set to speed up Apple

Leaked information suggests Intel to be months away from introduction of faster, smaller and more power-efficient Ivy Bridge processors that seem set to replace the current CPUs inside next-generation iMacs and MacBook Pros. Intel hasn't yet gone public on its plans.

These 22nm parts are expected for release to OEM's around April, shipping in larger quantities the following month. Of the 17 chips in the new series set for release, according to reports, some will be suitable for inclusion within future Macs. Specifically, reports claim these may include the 3820QM and 3720QM i7. These are likely for inclusion in Apple laptops while new quad-core i7 and i5 chips may be destined for use in desktop machines, Digitimes claimed in a late December report.

Apple's engineers can look to deliver impressive graphics performance improvement when engaged in intensive tasks. What can you expect? Intel's own tests claim significant performance increases, as follows:

The processor may be up to 25% better performing than the Sandy Bridge processors.

Mobile users will benefit from a variety of power management improvements, which should boost performance and battery life.

Office productivity applications should also benefit from these performance increases.

The new graphics core will boast DirectX 11 and OpenCL 1.1 support and offer new video processor and display controllers, along with support for PCI Express 3.0 x16 interconnects as well as PCIe 2.0 x4 controller.

>> APPLE IN NUMBERS

$1.6mn

Rare Apple founding contract sold at a Sotheby's auction

>> PATENT CONTROL

Apple's $5m payout

Apple pays out to avoid drawn-out court battles

Apple holds many patents that control its multi-touch control system, but has had to cough up $5 million in damages for use of some it doesn't possess.

The company is paying up to settle a patent infringement lawsuit related to multi-touch technology. Taiwan's Elan Microelectronics (a manufacturer of chips and touchscreens) filed its patent infringement lawsuit in 2009. It claimed Apple had violated patents related to using two fingers to perform operations on a touch pad or touch screen in the iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, MacBook and the Magic Mouse.

Elan also filed a complaint against Apple with the US International Trade Commission, which could have put a block on imports of these devices into the US. This case was dismissed by the ITC.

Apple has settled the dispute with the cash payout and also agreed to a cross-licensing deal between the two firms. The deal won't enable the Taiwanese firm to emulate iOS devices, Apple said in a statement provided to Reuters.

"We are glad to put the Elan case behind us and avoid a court battle. The cross-licensing agreement gives Elan access to two of Apple's patents, but none of the innovations that make iPhone, iPad and iPod touch unique," an Apple spokeswoman said. ●

Touch technology is cause for controversy (and lawsuits).

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Got an iMac? Entering the competition could land you this drive to go with it!
Photography: Joe Branston

Win! Iomega Mac Companion 3TB!

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A versatile external hard drive that looks great under an iMac

This great-looking external hard drive is more than just a pretty box. With its brushed aluminium and smoky black casing, it looks fantastic on the foot of your iMac or Apple Display. If you connect it to your Mac through USB, it also has a two-port USB hub, and if you opt for the faster FireWire 800 connection, you get an extra port for daisy-chaining devices.

Best of all, Mac Companion has a high-powered USB port on the side of the drive for charging your iPad. With the drive connected to your Mac through USB, the charging port delivers 500mA of power and can also sync your iOS device. If you connect through FireWire, it delivers 1000mA of power and charges in half the time.

Iomega Mac Companion has an RRP of £280 for 2TB or £350 for 3TB, but we've got three 3TB models to give away.

The Question

To stand a chance of winning one of these superb prizes, just answer the following simple question:

How much power does Mac Companion's fast-charging USB port deliver when the drive is connected to your Mac using FireWire?

A) 10mA
B) 100mA
C) 1000mA

» HOW TO ENTER

- To enter, text IOMEGA, followed by a space then your answer (A, B or C), space, then your name and address to 87474; or enter via our website at **www.macformat.co.uk** and click on the **Competition** link.
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Me&MyMac

MacFormat readers share their beloved Mac setups

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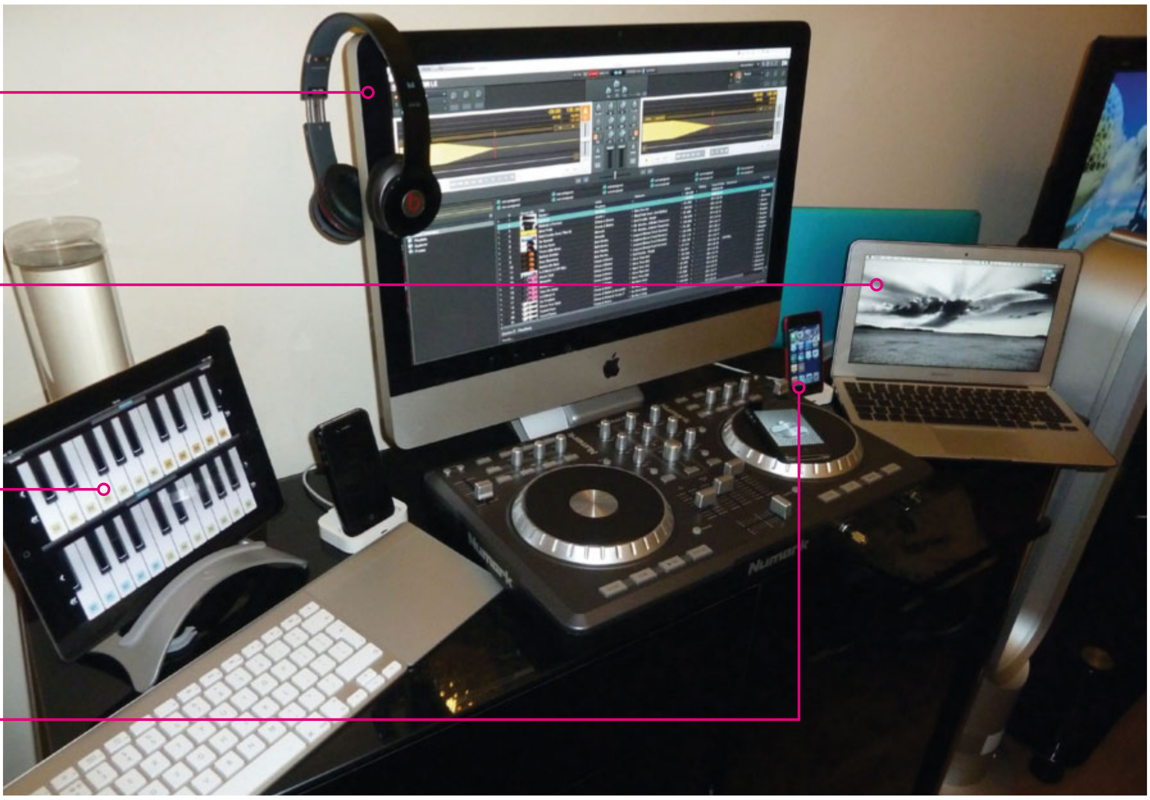
Want to share your Mac setup with us? Send a photo of your kit to **macformat@futurenet.com**

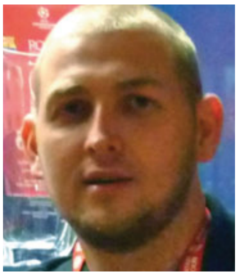
21.5-inch iMac
Muhammad uses his iMac for storing the sports images he shoots. He uses *iPhoto* and *Photoshop*.

11-inch MacBook Air
Just one of the two MacBook Airs Muhammad's family owns. He uses it for DJing and camera work.

iPad 2 Wi-Fi + 3G
Muhammad's top-of-the-range iPad helps him stay in touch with family and friends using various apps.

iPhone 4S
Muhammad clearly doesn't do anything by half: his latest iPhone is the best model with 64GB.





>>PROFILE

Name: Muhammad Ali
Occupation: Photographer / DJ
Been using a Mac for: Five years
Favourite hardware: iPhone 4S, iMac, iPad, MacBook Air, iPod touch
Favourite software: iPhoto, iMovie, iTunes, Traktor

Photographer and DJ Muhammad Ali first got into Apple five years ago – and his passion for the company and its products has been growing ever since. As a former Windows user, he was initially attracted to the Mac by its looks, buying his first Mac – a black MacBook – in 2007 and then an iPod touch the same year. Today he has an enviable collection: an iMac, two MacBook Airs, an iPad 2 Wi-Fi + 3G, an iPhone 4 and an iPhone 4S – partly because he uses them professionally, of course, but also because he's become a little bit obsessed. He only buys official Apple accessories such as cables and so on, and now regards his collection as members of his family – he'd never think about selling them or giving them away.

It's obvious when you talk to Muhammad about his passion for all things Apple that it's also about staying ahead of the curve.

> *"I realised when I first went into the Apple Store that if I didn't get a Mac in my life then I would be left behind"*

"Technology changes so fast. It's either get on board or get left behind," he says. "I realised when I went into an Apple Store for the first time that if I didn't get a Mac in my life then I would be left behind."

Muhammad certainly recognised early on that the iPod and digital downloads were the future: although he doesn't DJ professionally much anymore, he still uses his iPod touch and his MacBook Air to DJ for friends using software like *Serato* and *Traktor*. His flight cases of CDs and DJ equipment were replaced long ago by a small messenger bag. This houses his Apple gear and an external Western Digital hard disk drive containing his R&B music collection.

As a professional sports photographer, Muhammad often uses *iPhoto* and *Photoshop* on his Mac for cataloguing and editing the images he shoots. The final results appear in the programmes of professional women's football teams and in local newspapers. He's also become something of an *iMovie* expert, chiefly thanks to the time he spends shooting and editing videos of his family. He admits that he's now become so proficient at using *iMovie* that he's hit the limits of what it can do. That's why he's considering upgrading to something more powerful, such as *Final Cut Pro X*. ●

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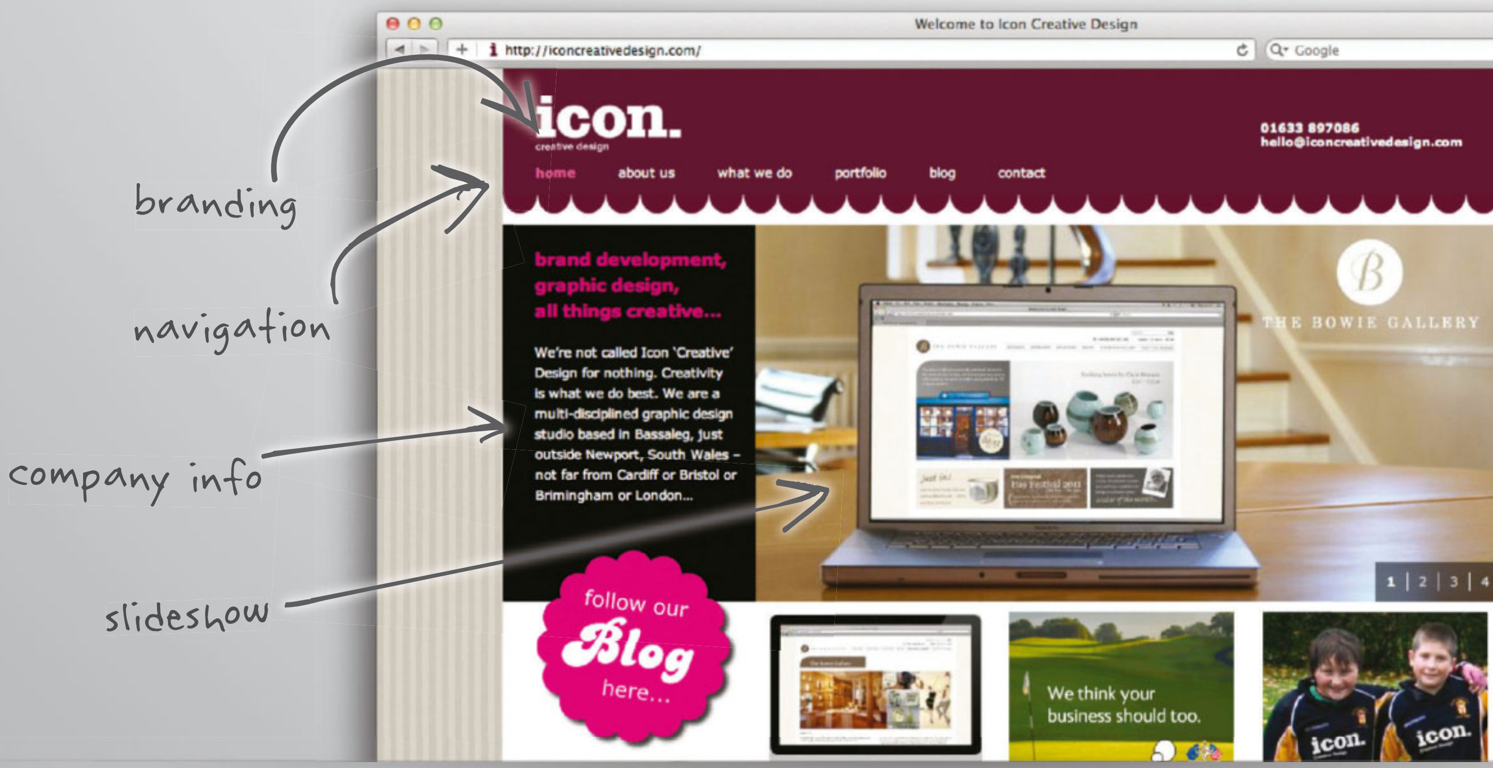

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Interview: Graham Barlow

I use my Mac for Developing apps

Julian Ranger wanted to share photos securely with his family, so he invented an app

»PROFILE

Name: Julian Ranger
Occupation: Entrepreneur
URL: www.dadapp.com
Mac: iMac 3.06 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo, OS X 10.7.2

MacFormat: Why did you choose a Mac over a PC?

Julian Ranger: I was doing a world tour for 18 months and had the latest small PC with me. Every time I logged on from some remote spot the PC would auto-update and keep me from my own internet bandwidth and processor cycles – so frustrating. I changed to a MacBook Air after one month and everything was great, instant connections, processor under my control and processing photographs with *Aperture* (even the early version available then) was and still is a dream – I have over 20,000 photographs (and I only keep 15% of what I shoot). I'm a committed Mac fan now with an iMac, MacBook Pro, MacBook Air, iPhone, iPad – and my wife and four children all have Macs.

MF: What got you started with developing apps?

JR: I spent 20 years building a business helping to create the military internet for various nations and managing highly complex communication challenges among very different platforms. After selling my business to Lockheed Martin, I looked for a new challenge and realised that we consumers still (even with Macs) have to fight our systems to manage and share our information. I wanted to change that and hence started developing consumer-based apps, first *SocialSafe* and now *DADapp*.

MF: What's the main idea behind your *DADapp*?

JR: There are two ideas, the first of which is that we are inherently private people that like to share – so why do we have to trade privacy when sharing with family and friends? Also why is sharing only easy over the internet? Why not also at home (even sharing between Macs requires knowledge of shared folders, etc) and for syncing (another form of sharing) between our own computers/devices? And why do I need different tools to sync, share at home, share over internet and yet another to share large files? *DADapp* solves all these issues in one inexpensive and easy-to-use app, that is 100% private.

The second idea expands upon sharing to help make your regular 'tasks' easier, such as managing photos, sharing playlists, backup, sync and allowing you to find and reuse your data and organisation easily. This will all happen with *DADapp*, as we add capability during this year.

As we say *DADapp* is more flexible than Dropbox, easier than Windows Networking and more private than Facebook. It is for you, your home, and your world.

MF: How's it going so far?

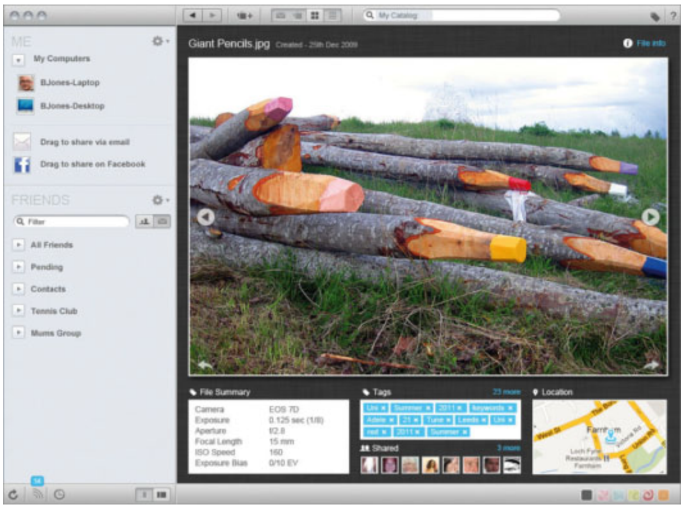
JR: We launched in mid-November last year, so it's early days yet, but feedback so far has been very positive. We're updating the product regularly over the next few months to roll out the feature set we've been working on for over two years. So now is a good time to grab a free *DADapp* licence! Until the end of February all users will get five years free.

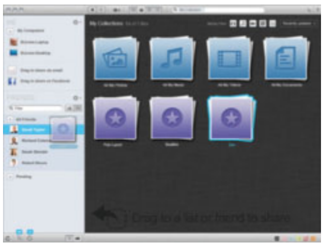
MF: What's next for you?

JR: Working on delivering the vision for *DADapp* will be my priority for the next couple of years, but I also have a number of other businesses I am involved with. One of these, *Astrobotic*, is looking to win the Google Lunar X Prize by placing the first commercial robotic rover on the moon. I have my own personal space race going on – will I get to go to space with Virgin Galactic first (I'm 152 on the list) or will Astrobotic place our rover on the moon first?

As a chartered engineer I'm also keen that we increase the take-up of what is known as STEM in the UK – Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths. I have a personal foundation where we are working on projects to help get children interested in STEM, for fun and for their future careers. ●

BELOW: DADapp provides a fun and secure way to share photos with your family. **BELOW RIGHT:** Take the chore out of organising your images.





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Gadgets

The hottest kit on
the horizon. Here's
what's got us excited

▼ Orbotix Sphero

$130 (around £83)

www.gosphero.com

What is it? This tiny robot ball is controlled by an iOS app. Measuring 7.4cm in diameter and weighing 168g, the Sphero connects to your iOS device using Bluetooth and runs for about an hour on a single charge. It can reach speeds of around three feet a second, and contains a multi-coloured LED.

When's it due? Should be out now.

Why are we excited? Sphero is of no practical use, but who could resist making an obstacle course on the living room floor?

▲ Behringer iNuke Boom

$30,000 (around £20,000) **www.behringer.com**

What is it? See the tiny thing that looks like a miniature iOS device sat atop the speaker dock? It's actually a real, life-sized iPhone. The iNuke really is that big. To be specific, it's eight feet wide, four feet tall and weighs over 700lbs. It pumps out 10,000 watts of audio, so mind the windows.

When's it due? Launched at CES last year.

Why are we excited? Excited? More like flabbergasted. We've no idea what you'd do with such a huge, weighty and pricey iPod speaker dock, but it's an incredible piece of kit.

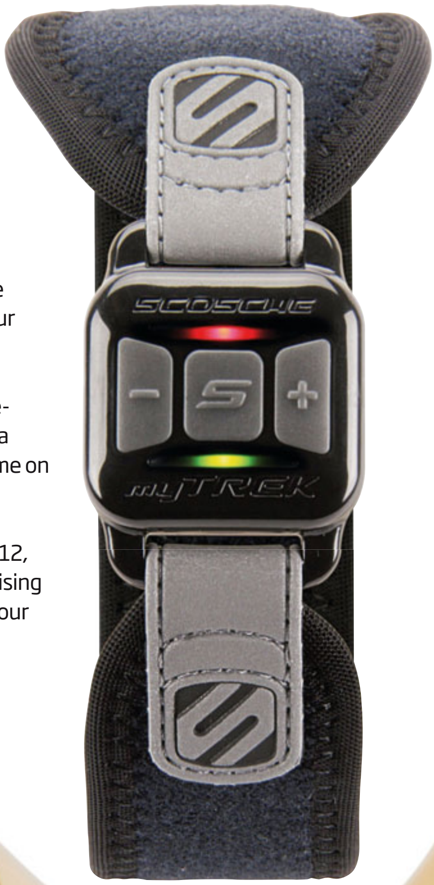
▶ Ferguson Hill FH009 Home Theatre System

£800 **www.fergusonhill.co.uk**

What is it? The FH009's art deco-influenced aesthetics are designed to enhance the audio experience as well as look good in the home. Its patented di-polar horn speakers, which can be wall-mounted or left free-standing, eliminate the interference that can come with standard encased or boxed speaker systems. Horn-loaded drivers allow the sound to be more easily magnified at the frequency range to which the human ear is most sensitive. It works with any device with an audio-out line, including TVs, DVDs, Blu-ray players, games consoles, music systems and more.

When's it due? Was released in December.

Why are we excited? If you like your living-room sound systems minimalist and unobtrusive, this could well be the one for you. And why shouldn't your movies sound as good as your music?



▶ Scosche myTREK

£130 www.scosche.com

What is it? This wrist-mounted sports trainer is controlled from an iOS app, and designed with the amateur athlete in mind. You can keep tabs on your pulse, count the calories you've burned off and calculate distance covered, speed and pace. Two combined LEDs and a photo sensor detect minute-by-minute changes in your blood pressure, while a lithium-ion battery gives five hours of workout time on a single charge.

When's it due? Out now.

Why are we excited? If you want to get fit in 2012, myTREK could prove an excellent means of organising your training schedule. Just don't expect it to do your exercise for you. No pain, no gain.

▲ LandingZone

£TBA http://landingzone.net

What is it? If you've got a new MacBook Air, you might want one of these. LandingZone is a docking station for the 11-inch or 13-inch Air (2010 or later). After slotting it into place, it gives four USB ports, so you no longer need a separate hub. A built-in 10/100T Ethernet port gives wired networking without a dongle, and it connects to the mains to power your MacBook Air too.

When's it due? Coming soon.

Why are we excited? If your Air is your main Mac, used both at home and on the move, LandingZone is a quick and easy way to connect your notebook to desktop peripherals such as hard drives, a monitor and speakers.

◀ en&is MegaPhone

From $500 (around £325)
www.enandis-shop.it

What is it? This ceramic horn is an iPod dock like no other. Built by Italian designers Enrico Bosa and Isabella Lovero and hand crafted in ceramic, MegaPhone contains no electronics whatsoever. Instead, the sound is amplified by the shape of the horn. Launched in white, there's now a black version, and even a hand-painted gold model for $800 (about £520).

When's it due? Order online now.

Why are we excited? It's an excellent conversation piece, and would look great in the right room. In an era of mass production, it's the craftsmanship that really makes the MegaPhone stand out from the crowd.

Feedback

>>CONTACT US

Whatever your Mac-related cares, concerns or calamities are, let us know about them by contacting us on the following email address: **macformat@futurenet.com**

Let us know what you think about your Mac, MacFormat and everything Apple

The Lion debate

Reading Mr Alan Paterson's comments regarding Lion, I disagree with what he has to say. I love using Lion and it has definitely brought joy in using my Mac at a higher level. I love using Mission Control and Launchpad. Full-screen apps are helpful, as I like to be focused on what I am doing.

However, I do think people are judgmental about new software releases. When I go about purchasing new software I research the product first, read the reviews, work out if this software will work for me. It's like buying a car – you try it out first before buying. If you are happy with what you have got, why moan and change it? At the end of the day, I get the feeling people don't like change.

Alex Chamberlain

Lion still divides Mac users - which side of the fence are you on?

Lion moans

You want moans about Lion? In general, Lion is clunkier. Take Spotlight – previously you typed in what you wanted, Spotlight found it and told you where it was filed. Now it doesn't. Sure, there's a workaround, but why should there need to be?

Launchpad is not good. Sure, you can move stuff around, but why should you have to? Applications and Utilities, in alphabetical order and on a single page, were much better.

I started moving stuff onto the first page of Launchpad but I gave up. It's clunky, again. I remember thinking, 'this is not Apple-like'. I could go on…

Andy Dickson

MacFormat replies: Thanks for the replies, Alex and Andy. We're hoping a new version of OS X 10.8 will be released this year that will smooth off any rough edges that remain on Lion's new features.

Me & My Mac

In *MF243*, the Me & My Mac photo annotation seems to indicate Barry Graham has an eight-year-old prototype iPod in the shape of the iPhone 4. It's a wonder Apple managed to keep the design a secret for so long.

However, realistically, I think the caption was just pointed to the wrong device on the desk.

Happy New Year to all at *MacFormat* magazine!

Mark Woods

>>STAR LETTER / iMacs don't grow old

Just caught your feature iMacs Don't Grow Old (*MF243*). I am a prime practitioner of this philosophy – never give Apple full price for a new iMac! I made the switch to Apple a couple of years ago with my purchase of an iMac G4/800, which I still use as my main computer, running Tiger 10.4.11, *TenFourFox*, the *Firefox* replacement for Tiger PPC, *Open Office 3.2.1* for the PPC, the *Gimp 2.6.11* for Tiger PPC, *iLife '05*. I got all this for 90 Canadian dollars in the Province of Ontario.

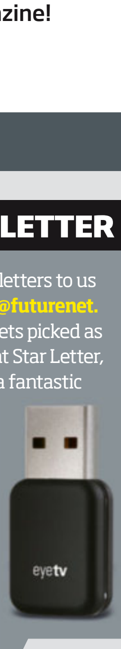
All my peripherals work perfectly (printer, scanner, Altec Lansing sub-woofer speakers and a much quicker external LG burner), but to get more power I am also looking for either an iMac G5, 2.1GB, 20-inch screen – the last G5 before the first Intel Core Duo, or the 20-inch version of my current iMac, with the same excellent matte screen. As a backup to my G4, I also have an iMac G3/400 running Panther (it cost me less than $10, after some inventive buying/selling!), which will allow me to use email and banking. DSL has given these machines a new purpose. So, for about $100, I am very successfully using two legacy Macs, which are still way better than any modern PC!

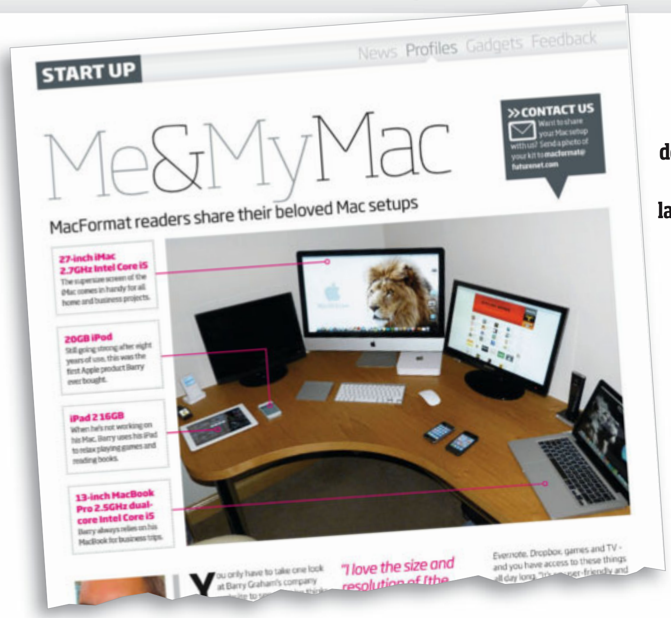
Ken Kline

MacFormat replies: Thanks Ken, it's great to hear that you're still getting so much value out of old Apple kit. We're convinced that for most people's needs getting an old Mac from eBay can be a better option than getting a brand-new PC laptop.

>>STAR LETTER

Email all your letters to us at **macformat@futurenet.com** If yours gets picked as the MacFormat Star Letter, you'll be sent a fantastic DTT Deluxe. Almost impossibly tiny, this little USB device gives your Mac powerful digital TV reception.





START UP

News Profiles Gadgets Feedback

Me&MyMac

MacFormat readers share their beloved Mac setups

>>CONTACT US Want to share your Mac setup with us? Send a photo of your kit to macformat@futurenet.com

27-inch iMac 2.7GHz Intel Core i5 The supersize screen of the iMac comes in handy for all home and business projects.

20GB iPod Still going strong after eight years of use, this was the first Apple product Barry ever bought.

iPad 2 16GB When he's not working on his Mac, Barry uses his iPad to relax playing games and reading books.

13-inch MacBook Pro 2.5GHz dual-core Intel Core i5 Barry always relies on his MacBook for business trips.

Spot the deliberate mistake last issue?

MacFormat replies: Well spotted Mark, the arrow should indeed have been pointing at the iPod on Barry's desk, not his new iPhone! Happy New Year to you, too.

New iMac

I've switched from a PC, having used them professionally since MS-DOS and then Windows 2. My iMac is terrific, though let down by software omissions – namely *iDVD* and *iWeb*. When I first used *iPhoto* to make a slideshow I was amazed at how easy it was to come up with something really good. I looked forward to being able to burn it to DVD for use on my DVD player – after all, *iDVD* is in the latest release of *iPhoto's* Share menu, but it was greyed out. Apple's tech support were sorry, but stated that *iDVD* and *iWeb* have been removed.

To me this seems like an ill thought-out move from Apple for a number of reasons. First, both apps are still shown in the menu systems of the other *iLife* apps. Also, the sales website still features them, for example www.apple.com/uk/ilife/iweb. And finally, the product feedback system still lists which version should be used with Lion (http://support.apple.com/kb/HT4711).

All the Apple reps I talked to, from sales to after-sales to tech support, have been great people, and do not themselves seem convinced by Apple's decision. Indeed, one person from sales and tech said: "If you can find somebody with a boxed set of *iLife '11*, use it." And one from sales has said: "Buy a set from somewhere, or buy a different product from the Mac App Store".

Thanks for the magazine; it's a good read and helpful. If there is any way *MF* can persuade Apple to put *iWeb* and iDVD back, that would be superb!

Dave Chislett

MacFormat replies: We agree with you, Dave, and we wish Apple hadn't downgraded the status of *iDVD* and *iWeb*, since both apps are still useful to a lot of people. You can get them by buying *iLife '11* on disc for £46 from the Apple Store though – just visit http://store.apple.com/uk and type *iLife '11* into the search box to find it.

No Wi-Fi wireless

When I was watching WWDC in June 2011, I was excited about the new features iOS 5 had. I was thrilled to hear Wi-Fi syncing would be introduced by Apple. However, I didn't have a home network that I could sync my iOS devices over. Thankfully, soon after iOS 5 was released, I thought of a way that might allow me to sync my devices over the air. I turned Wi-Fi on, on my Mac, and made a new ad-hoc network. I was then able to connect and sync my devices.

Conor J Duggan

MacFormat replies: That's a great tip, Conor. Let's hope it means more people can enjoy wireless syncing, but check out our feature this month on page 74 for one potential issue we've discovered with wireless syncing and backups.

>> APPLE EVENTS / What's going on?

28 FEBRUARY

MACFORMAT Issue 245
28 February 2012
Everything Apple inside the best UK Mac magazine – don't miss the next exciting issue.

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NSCONFERENCE, Berkshire
19-21 March 2012
If you develop Mac or iOS apps, don't miss this leading event, featuring keynotes, tech sessions and more.

MUSIKMESSE, Frankfurt
21-24 March 2012
Musikmesse is a leading event for music creation, recording and production, with workshops, concerts and much more.

NAB, Las Vegas
14-19 April 2012
The world's leading digital media event for video, audio and entertainment professionals, an essential date in Apple's diary.

Twitter @#! talk

From the Twittersphere

We asked:
Have you tried iTunes Match? What do you think?

@ABrittlebank
"Can't try it - I have 40,000 songs in iTunes and the Match limit is 25,000."

@andyhawthorne1
"I have, and I like it. 'It just works' is a cliché I know, but it's true. Great to have entire music library everywhere."

@justinmoors
"If iTunes Match could stream music to my devices, I'd buy it like a shot, until then I shall stick with Spotify."

@DarthSarcasm
"Bought it, liking it so far. Download to iOS limited due to mobile bandwidth caps but a good start. Would like podcasts included."

@c_cooper88
"I've found it's worked as promised except on my iPhone it seems to not sync album art every so often."

@KMPR
"iTunes Match is working well. Improved quality by having all music on the one standard rather than off CD and even a few off vinyl."

@Jet_Set_Willy
"iTunes Match is great but I have a few niggles. My purchases are duplicated, 'matched' and 'purchased'. Streaming to idevices is spot on!"

You can find out what we're up to each month by following the team at Twitter.com/MacFormat

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FREE Included Domains	—	—	1	1
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Words: Gary Marshall

MacFormat investigates

Apple's secrets

Apple's more secretive than the CIA and more paranoid than the Pentagon – but is that good for Apple, and for us? MacFormat investigates

Remember the famous cable drop scene in *Mission: Impossible* where Tom Cruise abseils into a locked room full of lasers? That's how Apple design chief Jonathan Ive gets to work.

We're exaggerating, but only just. In Walter Isaacson's biography of Steve Jobs, he describes Ive's design studio as "shielded by tinted windows and a heavy clad, locked door. Just inside is a glass-booth reception desk where two assistants guard access. Even the most high-level Apple employees are not allowed in without special permission." In a wonderful bit of pot-kettle-black criticism, other Apple employees describe Ive's design team as "secretive". When you're accused of secrecy by people who work for the most secretive company in the world, you must be pretty good at keeping secrets. Secrecy is in Apple's DNA. Everyone from the Board of Directors to employees of far-flung subcontractors knows the importance of keeping schtum and the penalties of loose lips: as one anonymous Apple Store employee puts it: "You have to be late, like, 15 times before they'll fire you. But if you talk to the press or speculate to a customer about the next iPad? That's the end of you."

> "A culture of secrecy has kept Apple the most talked-about company on the planet and its rivals in the dark"

The culture of secrecy has made Apple the most talked-about company on the planet, kept rivals in the dark and made keynotes a magical occasion. However, in recent months there have been worrying signs that Apple's secrecy can actually harm it as well as help. Should CEO Tim Cook make Apple more transparent?

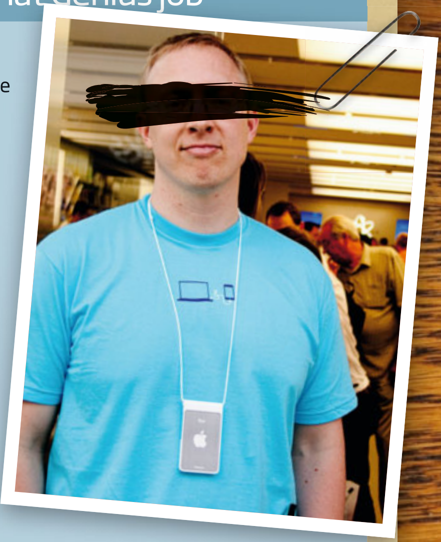
TOP SECRET
NOT TO BE REMOVED FROM
1 Infinite Loop
Cupertino
California
Apple Confidential
For Ive's Eyes Only
Apple TV
OS X 10.8
iPad 3
iPhone 5

WHO'D BE A GENIUS? / Blogging about Apple? Say bye to that Genius job

From what we can gather, it's not easy being a Genius: not only do you have to be a paragon of customer service all of the time, but you also have to be more secretive than a spy. According to leaked Apple documents, employees need to follow Apple's five core principles. They are: Honesty, Respect, Confidentiality, Community and Compliance. That means sticking to rules including the following:

- Ensure that [online] content associated with you is consistent with Apple policies.
- Do not use blogs, wikis, social networks and other tools "for internal communications among fellow employees".
- Do not use or discuss any information regarding Apple customers for any purpose. This includes contacting customers for social reasons or for soliciting outside business.
- Use a disclaimer [to] make clear that you are writing for yourself and on your own behalf, and not for Apple.
- Protect Apple's confidential information.
- Don't use your Apple email for personal use.
- Protect [...] sources of confidential information.
- Refrain from speculating on any [product or service] Apple has not officially announced, even if a customer presses you for a personal opinion or indicates an interest in making a substantial purchase.
- Do not confirm or deny any [rumoured] information.
- Speculating on [company] rumours with internal Apple colleagues is prohibited.

You have been warned!



There's no point in asking your local Apple Store staff to speculate about iPad 3s: they're not allowed to.

According to The New York Times, Phil Schiller has provided inaccurate information to Apple employees to find people with loose lips.

CEO Tim Cook isn't going to blab about Apple's top-secret plans any time soon: media blackouts generate anticipation.

Want to know a secret?

There are several reasons why Apple likes to keep the rest of the world out of the Infinite Loop. The first and most obvious one is that it keeps rivals in the dark. For example, according to an anonymous RIM employee (for obvious reasons, most of the people you'll read about in this feature prefer to stay anonymous), the launch of the original iPhone sent BlackBerry executives into a state of sheer panic. There was no way the iPhone could work "without an insanely power-hungry processor", they believed. "It must have terrible battery life." As far as RIM's in-house experts were concerned, the iPhone was impossible. It wasn't, of course, but Apple's secrecy meant that RIM didn't know the world had changed until Steve Jobs said so.

> "Apple's policies on social networking, effectively ban all employees from pretty much anything"

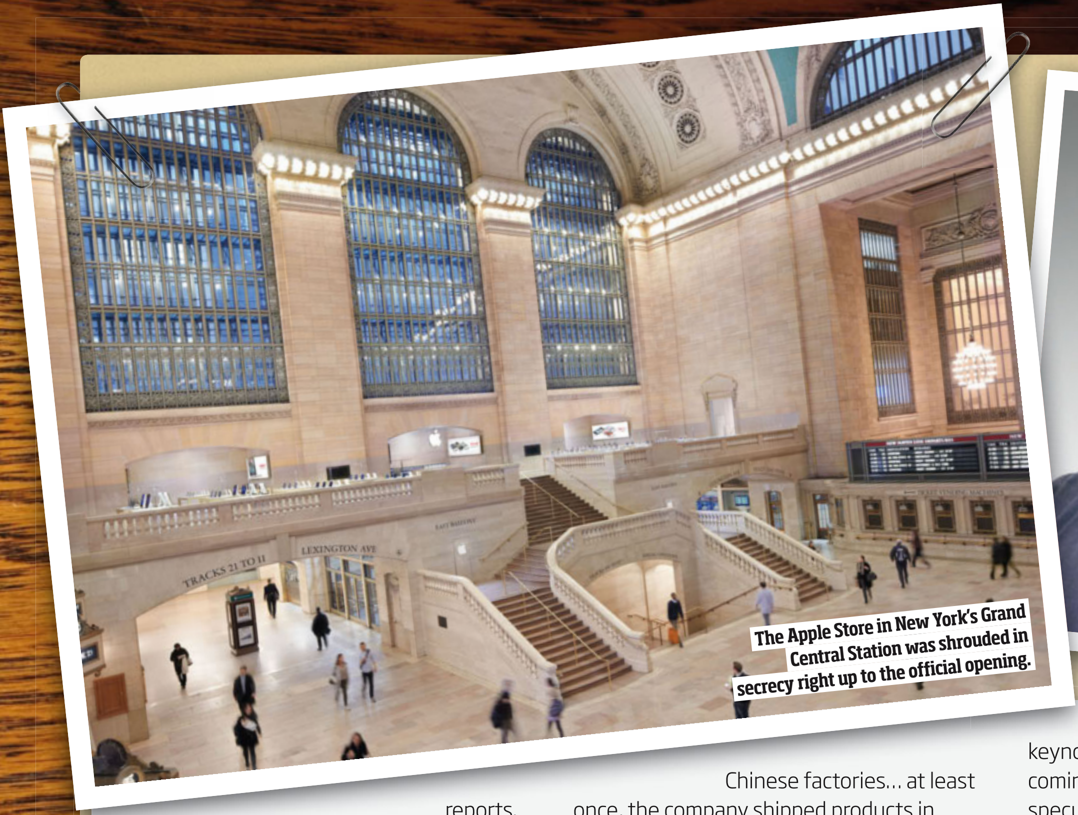
The second reason is that secrecy is a superb marketing tool. Apple is almost unique in its attitude to public relations: where other firms beg media outlets and bloggers for the slightest bit of coverage, Apple generally maintains a stony silence. The media effectively becomes Apple's PR machine, breathlessly reporting rumours and speculating about what Apple could have hidden up its sleeve.

God help anyone at Apple who helps fuel that speculation, though. Apple's internal policies on social networking, blogging and trade secrets, a copy of which was acquired by 9to5mac.com, effectively ban all employees from pretty much anything. Employees: can't discuss Apple on their own websites; can't comment on Apple-related sites or blogs; can't discuss rumours, potential new products or improvements to existing ones with customers or anybody else; aren't allowed to speculate on rumours; and must ensure that "content associated with you is consistent with Apple's policies." Even "speculating on rumours with internal Apple colleagues is strictly prohibited."

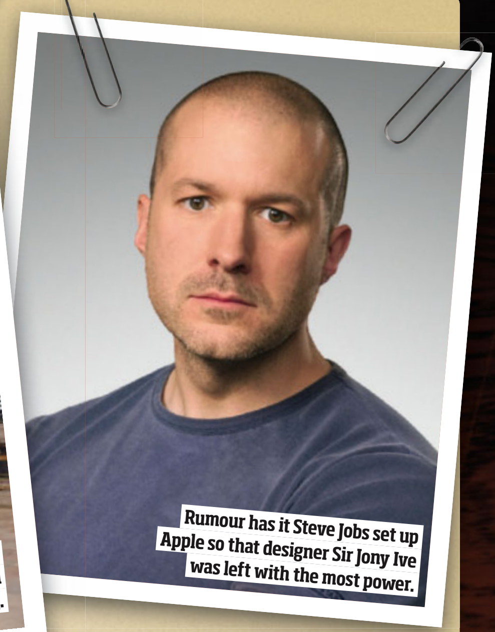
"As an Apple employee you have an obligation to protect the confidential, proprietary and trade secret information of the company," the document says. "For example, do not discuss any Apple confidential information including your store's financial or business performance, and the timing, pricing or design of Apple's products. Also, do not post pictures of the inside of the Apple Store – including the back of house – as those are not generally made public. Finally..." – and this one's obviously been ignored by whoever passed the document to 9to5mac – "...do not post or disclose the contents of any Apple policy."

Secrets and lies

When it comes to secrecy Apple takes every possible precaution. Speaking to *The New York Times*, former iPhone engineer Mark Hamblin described how "they make everyone super, super paranoid about security." Secrecy "is baked into the corporate culture," the *NYT*



The Apple Store in New York's Grand Central Station was shrouded in secrecy right up to the official opening.



Rumour has it Steve Jobs set up Apple so that designer Sir Jony Ive was left with the most power.

reports.

"Employees working on top-secret projects must pass through a maze of security doors, swiping their badges again and again and finally entering a numeric code to reach their offices, according to one former employee who worked in such areas."

"Work spaces are typically monitored by security cameras, this employee said. Some Apple workers in the most critical product-testing rooms must cover up devices with black cloaks when they are working on them, and turn on a red warning light when devices are unmasked so that everyone knows to be extra-careful, he said."

Apple also spends a great deal of effort trying to trap would-be leakers. Apple's Senior Vice President for Marketing, Phil Schiller, "has held internal meetings about new products and provided incorrect information about prices or features", the *NYT* says. If that information leaks, Apple has a pretty good idea where the leak came from.

Contracting a ruse

Similar tricks are used to prevent contractors from leaking anything juicy. "On occasion, Apple will give contract manufacturers different products, just to try them out," Reuters says. "That way, the source of any leaks becomes immediately obvious." Apple also splits manufacturing between multiple partners to prevent any single organisation knowing the bigger picture, and according to *BusinessWeek*, "Apple places electronic monitors in some boxes of parts that allow observers in Cupertino to track them through Chinese factories… at least once, the company shipped products in tomato boxes to avoid detection." Apple employees "monitored every hand-off point – loading dock, airport, truck depot and distribution centre – to make sure each unit was accounted for."

The penalties for leaking product information can be severe. All subcontractors sign a confidentiality agreement, and if they break it they can lose the entire contract; obviously if Apple can't prove a particular firm did it but has a strong suspicion, the contract might not be renewed. When you consider the enormous quantities of components Apple orders, that's a big threat. And it may explain some of the pressure that lead to one tragic case in 2009 when Sun Danyong, a 25-year-old male, committed suicide after reporting the loss of an iPhone 4 prototype in his possession.

> "Apple gives contracters different products; that way, the source of the leak becomes immediately obvious"

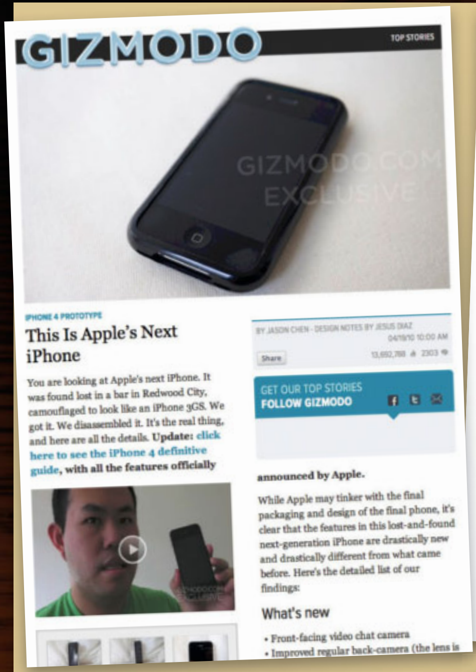
Just because you work for Apple doesn't mean anybody will tell you anything either (and believe it or not that even applies to us here at *MacFormat* magazine too, although we wish it was different). Speaking to *Popular Mechanics*, one Apple Store insider explained that "we are completely in the dark until a keynote speech. We have no idea what is coming and are not allowed to openly speculate… I actually avoid the technology section of the newspaper so I have no points of view to accidentally comment with or drop into conversation."

Firewall of silence

It seems big-name app developers don't get much love either. In the run-up to the launch of the first iPad, firms including Flixster, Evernote and mobile app developer Digital Chocolate asked for dev kits and were turned down flat and offered simulator software instead; the developers Apple did say yes to had to sign a 10-page confidentiality agreement and jump through all kinds of hoops. The "sixth person to get an iPad", a developer of a very successful iPad app, told Business Insider that in order to get a genuine, pre-release iPad to test code on, "we had to have a room with no windows. They changed the locks on the door. Three developers and I were the only people allowed to go in the room. Apple needed the names and social security numbers of the people who had access."

Apple drilled holes in the desk and chained the iPads up with bicycle cables, and each iPad was in a custom frame "so we couldn't even tell what the iPads looked like." Apple's representatives even took photos of the wood grain of the desk: if any pictures leaked out, they could trace it back to which desk they came from.

"I wasn't allowed to tell our CEO," the developer says. "I wasn't allowed to tell anybody anything about what we were doing. I couldn't even tell my wife."



GIZMODO

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GIZMODO.COM EXCLUSIVE

IPHONE 4 PROTOTYPE

This Is Apple's Next iPhone

BY JASON CHEN - DESIGN NOTES BY JESUS DIAZ
04/19/10 10:00 AM
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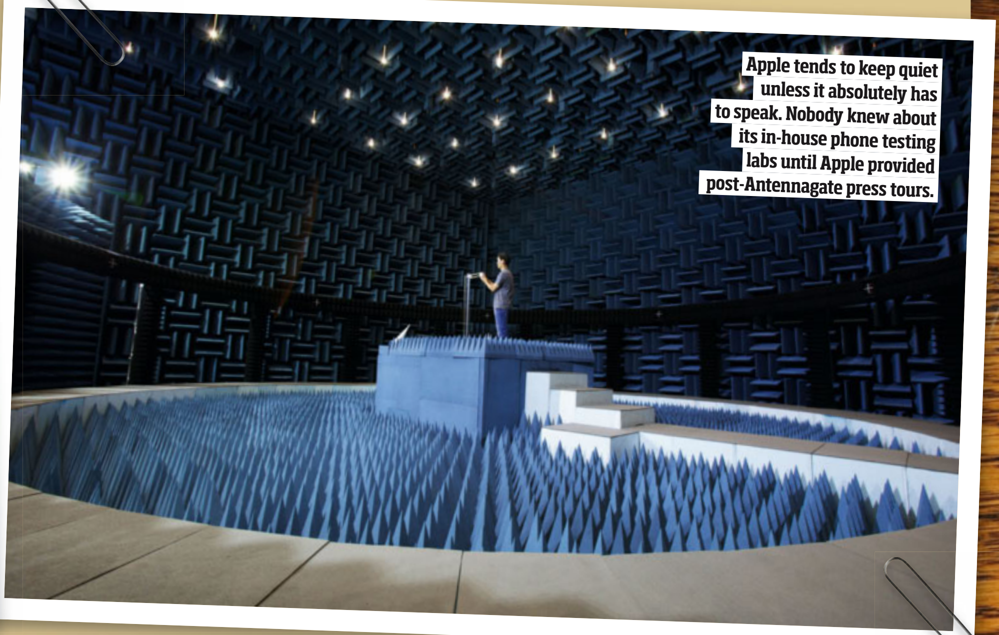
You are looking at Apple's next iPhone. It was found lost in a bar in Redwood City, camouflaged to look like an iPhone 3GS. We got it. We disassembled it. It's the real thing, and here are all the details. **Update:** click here to see the iPhone 4 definitive guide, with all the features officially announced by Apple.

While Apple may tinker with the final packaging and design of the final phone, it's clear that the features in this lost-and-found next-generation iPhone are drastically new and drastically different from what came before. Here's the detailed list of our findings:

What's new

- Front-facing video chat camera
- Improved regular back-camera (the lens is

Apple leaks are worth money to websites: when Gizmodo obtained an iPhone prototype that had been left in a bar, it gained millions of page views and incurred Apple's wrath.



Apple tends to keep quiet unless it absolutely has to speak. Nobody knew about its in-house phone testing labs until Apple provided post-Antennagate press tours.

The rumour factory predicted an iPhone 5 but Apple released the iPhone 4S. It turns out that not everything you read on the internet is true.

3G
9:41 AM
" On May 19 remind me it's dad's birthday "
Here's your reminder for May 19, 2012 at 9 am:
19 Saturday May 2012
Dad's birthday 5/19/12
Cancel
Confirm

Apple's wall of secrecy meant that blogs and media outlets became Apple's PR machine – but it's a machine that Apple doesn't control, and if you don't control something there's always the risk that it might turn around and bite you. That's exactly what happened in October when Apple announced the iPhone 4S – or rather, when Apple didn't announce the iPhone 5.

Don't just take our word for it: here's Apple's Chief Financial Officer, Peter Oppenheimer. "Apple's secrecy creates a certain amount of vacuum, which, as we all know, the internet abhors, and then fills with rumours," he said during Apple's October financial earnings call, noting that "pervasive" rumours had had a negative impact on iPhone sales.

> "Rumour-mongering has become an industry, especially online, where sites publish in the hope of more traffic"

The rumours didn't just affect sales: they affected Apple's share price too, with the value of Apple shares immediately falling by 5%. That's been happening quite a lot lately: with the exception of the iPad 2, the announcement of every major iOS device from the iPhone 3GS onwards has lead to a significant drop in Apple's share price.

Digital Trends' Geoff Duncan argues that Apple could be responsible for such drops in two ways: by whipping up the hype to the point where speculators buy Apple shares early and dump them at the very peak of the hype cycle as the keynote starts, and by attracting amateur investors with "unreasonable expectations" who "may start acquiring Apple stock in an effort to make a quick buck. Once the announcement hits, and Apple's stock price begins to decline, these same investors may panic and sell their stock in an effort to minimise their losses. That puts more Apple stock for sale, driving down the price even further."

The danger for Apple is that it could become the victim of its own success. Apple rumour-mongering has become an industry, especially online, where click-hungry sites publish the most ridiculous rumours in the hope of getting a bit more traffic. When the rumours become the story, as happened with the iPhone 4S, the actual product can't be anything other than a disappointment. That could be disastrous not just for Apple's shareholders, but for Apple itself: imagine if Apple product announcements were greeted not with cheers, but with jeers.

Secrecy for the sake of it

Critics of Apple argue that sometimes Apple takes its obsession with secrecy too far. For much of 2009 the App Store approvals process seemed to have been designed by Kafka, with apps being rejected for opaque reasons and developers given no option to appeal. That was eventually addressed and clear guidelines published, but only after widespread bad publicity. Many Apple watchers also believe that the firm should have been more open about Steve Jobs' failing

WHISTLE WHILE YOU WORK / What happens when Apple employees open up

Sharing Apple's secrets is a disciplinary offence, as some executives and engineers have discovered. As far as Apple is concerned, even Woz doesn't need to know about forthcoming products. Here are some tales of the most high-profile leaks of recent times – and what happened to the leakers.

Walter Shimoon

The former manager of Apple subcontractor Flextronics leaked information about "K48", a programme that would eventually lead to the iPad. "It's a totally new category altogether," Shimoon is alleged to have said. "At Apple you can get fired for saying K48." Shimoon wasn't just fired; he was also prosecuted for insider trading amid allegations that he'd been paid $200 per hour for sharing product details and sales predictions with a corrupt investment firm. Faced with recorded evidence in the form of wiretap recordings, Shimoon pleaded guilty.

Suk-Joo Hwang

Samsung manager Hwang leaked details of Samsung's iPad screen shipments to the same investment firm in 2009. Like Shimoon, Hwang found himself unemployed and in court. He pleaded guilty in September and is currently awaiting sentencing.

Edward Eigerman

The former Apple system engineer was fired in 2005 when he was implicated in a co-worker's leaking of unreleased software to a business customer.

AJ

According to Steve Wozniak, an Apple engineer he would only identify as AJ was apparently sacked for letting Woz play with the forthcoming iPad 3G for just two minutes. (Woz, if you didn't know, was one of the original co-founders of Apple.)

© Getty Images

Steve Wozniak may have friends at Apple, but that doesn't mean he gets product sneak previews.

health, and that by refusing to comment Apple turned the matter into a media circus. And according to CNN, retail industry executives "say Apple's demands for absolute secrecy in its store development process are peculiar and unjustified."

You can understand Apple wanting to keep the lid on details of the next iPhone, but its shops? Apparently so: CNN says that when it approached architect Peter Bohlin, who'd spoken to *The New York Times* about his work designing some of the most iconic Apple Stores, he said that "Apple has requested that we refrain from granting any additional interviews." Furthermore, CNN claims that "nearly two dozen people involved in the development of upcoming and recently opened US Apple Stores [say] Apple sometimes employs uncommon legal tactics, refuses to name itself in public documents and hearings, and has sworn city government officials to secrecy."

Stealthy stores

In Santa Monica today, where Apple is widely believed to be opening a second Apple Store, Apple's secretive behaviour "has perplexed and infuriated city officials who are unclear why Apple would feel the need to hide a new store when it already has one a couple of blocks away." CNN asked Apple to comment. Apple, of course – and yes, you're ahead of us here – declined.

Secrecy has been part of Apple's retail efforts since before the first store was opened: Apple hired an enormous warehouse to test its Store ideas in absolute secrecy, and they even hid the identity of the man in charge: when Steve Jobs hired Target executive Ron Johnson to head the Apple Store project, Johnson was given a false name and a phoney job title to throw rivals off the scent. John Bruce didn't get his name back until the first Apple Store was unveiled.

When it comes to secreting away the Next Big Thing, Steve Jobs came up with every trick in the book.

© Getty Images

> "You can understand Apple wanting to keep the lid on details of its next big product release, but its shops?"

Apple is secretive because of Steve Jobs. Jobs was a naturally secretive man, but he also understood the power of "big-bang" product announcements to generate enormous free publicity and to prevent pre-release bad publicity. In Steve Kemper's book *Code Name Ginger*, which recounts the story of the Segway scooter, Kemper describes a meeting between Segway inventor Dean Kamen, CEO Tim Adams, Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos and Steve Jobs. Jobs made it abundantly clear that he was no fan of the Segway's design or of Jeff Bezos' idea to launch the Segway softly in one country, pointing out that "slow was no longer possible… if the machine was unavailable in the United States, the company would blow its chance for $100 million of free publicity in its biggest market." Jobs also pointed out that with a slow launch, all it would take to create a PR disaster would be one unhappy customer. "I understand the appeal of a slow burn," he said, "but personally I'm a big-bang guy."

Will Tim Cook follow in Steve Jobs' secretive footsteps? We're betting on yes. Secrecy has served Apple well for the best part of 15 years, helping lift it from a bit player to the most important and influential technology company on Earth. While Apple has become more open in recent years – publishing App Store approval guidelines, being up-front about environmental issues and so on – and Cook is more communicative than Jobs, the wall of secrecy surrounding Apple's products will remain as strong as ever. If anything, it needs to become stronger: the stakes are too high for any more iPhone prototypes to be left behind in bars.

For Apple, secrecy isn't an affectation: it's the company's killer app. ●

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On top of that, we are offering all-new UK subscribers a copy of our *iDesire* bookazine, from the creators of the best selling *MacFormat* and *TAP!* magazines. Celebrate with us as we look back at more than 35 years of the company that was headed by the iconic Steve Jobs, a true technology visionary.

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- The evolution of Apple icons
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The art of the Apple Store

More power to you

The evolution of Apple icons
M

Words: Nick Peers and Kenny Hemphill

50 ways to improve your Mac and iPad

Get the most out of your Mac and iPad with these great tips

Your Mac is an incredibly versatile beast, and it's likely you've not even begun to scratch the surface of what it's capable of. That's where we come in.

Over the next six pages you'll find 30 new and exciting ways to make more of your Mac. You'll learn how to get the most out of the things you already use, but you'll also discover new ways to improve your Mac life.

And that's not all. An iPad extends and augments your Mac, which is why you'll find 20 top tablet tips to take your iOS use to the next level too. So power up, and let's begin! »

Orange
Cancel

Finder File Edit View Go Window Help
MacBook Air
10:30
Crop and Straighten
Revert to Original
Crop
Constrain
Reset

Improve your Mac

Follow these wide-ranging tips and your Mac will do more for you

01 Upgrade to Lion

If you've not yet made the jump to OS X Lion with all of its extra features and improvements, now is the time to do so. Your Mac will need to be running an Intel Core 2 Duo chip or better, and have a minimum of 2GB RAM installed. You'll also need to be running the latest version of Snow Leopard (10.6.8) – open the Apple menu and select *Software Update* to verify that this is the case.

Once your Mac is ready for the jump to Lion, open the Mac App Store from the Dock and you'll find Lion is the top-rated purchase – a bargain at just £20.99. See page 26 of *MacFormat* issue 237 for full details.

It's time to unleash the power of Apple's latest OS – Lion – on your Mac, if you've not already done so.

02 Get a Time Machine external backup drive

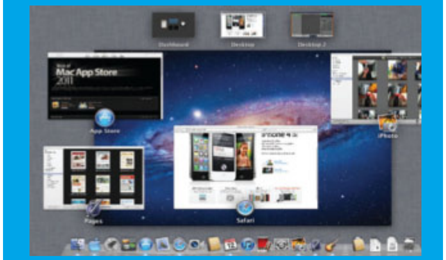
Just how much is your data worth to you? The importance of backing it up can't be overstated, and all you need to do is buy an external hard drive. Prices start from around £60 for a 1TB model that you plug into your Mac's USB or FireWire port. But if you've got two or more Macs to keep backed up, save yourself time and hassle by buying an Apple Time Capsule. It's a wireless hard drive designed to work with all your Macs seamlessly and easily. Prices start from £249 for 2TB, or £399 for 3TB.

03 Become a gamer

Discover just how capable your Mac is as a games machine by downloading Steam from http://store.steampowered.com/about. Think of Steam as an App Store for games – here you can download demos, buy games and gain access to free updates and reinstalls. You can also set up communities with friends and other gamers, and create and join multiplayer games. Add a social dimension to the way you play, plus add existing games to your library so you can launch them all from one handy location.

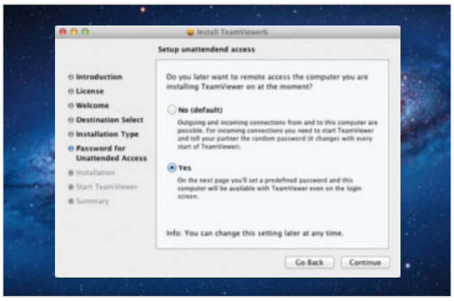
04 Start using Spaces and Mission Control

Select Spaces (Snow Leopard) or Mission Control (Lion) from the Dock, and you can quickly organise your apps into different virtual desktop windows known as Spaces. Set things up from *System Preferences* > Mission Control, or Exposé and Spaces. Once enabled, you can quickly switch between Spaces using the ctrl and arrow keys. You can launch an app within a Space, or move it to another Space via *System Preferences*.



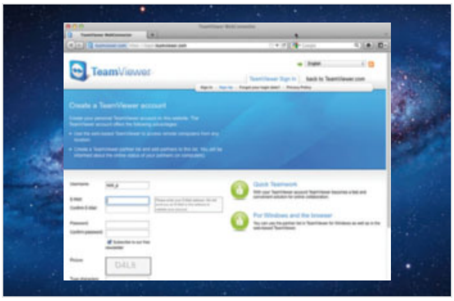
Create order from chaos by organising your application windows using Mission Control.

» TIP 05 / Set up your Mac for remote access



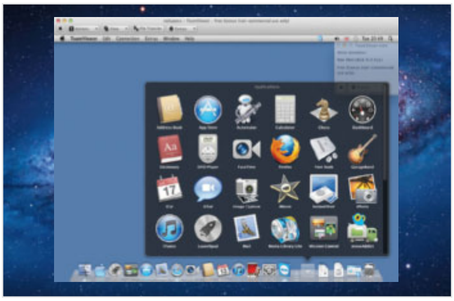
01 Install teamviewer

Download *TeamViewer* from **www.teamviewer.com** to each Mac you wish to control remotely. Once done, open **TeamViewer.dmg**, double-click **TeamViewer6.pkg** and follow the setup instructions, selecting for unattended access. Enter a password for remote use.



02 Set up account

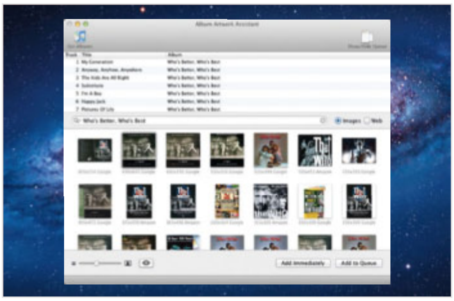
Click the TeamViewer icon in your menu bar and select **Partner list**. Click the **Sign Up** link to create an account that will simplify connecting to your Mac from another computer or your iOS device(s). Once done, enter your username and password to sign in on your Mac.

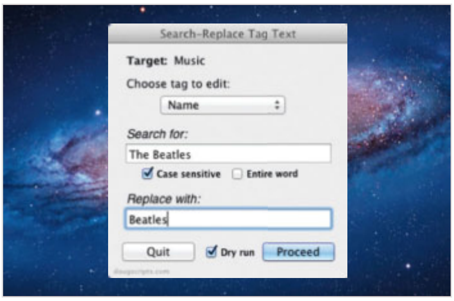


03 Connect remotely

When your Mac is on and connected to the internet, you'll be able to access it from another computer – install *TeamViewer* on that computer or log in at **https://login.teamviewer.com**. You can also take control via your iOS device and the free *TeamViewer* app. ●

TIP 06 / Put your iTunes library in order





Search-Replace Tag Text

Target: Music

Choose tag to edit:

Name

Search for:

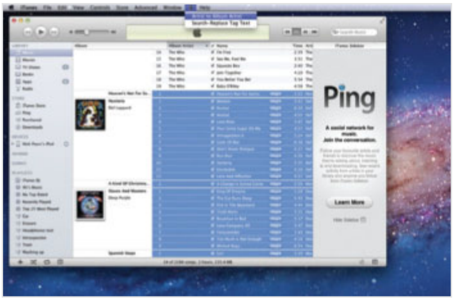
The Beatles

☑ Case sensitive ☐ Entire word

Replace with:

Beatles

Quit ☑ Dry run Proceed



01 Locate missing artwork

Can't find an album cover for a ripped CD? Install *Album Art Assistant* (**http://bit.ly/albumartassistant**). Launch *iTunes* then the assistant. Select tracks from the album, switch to the assistant and click **Get Albums**. Select the album's thumbnail and click **Add Immediately**.

02 Search and replace tags

Quickly search and replace multiple tags by downloading **Search-Replace Tag Text** from **http://dougscripts.com/321**. Follow the instructions to install, and access it from *iTunes*' **Scripts** menu. Enter search and replace terms, and tick **Dry run** to preview your changes.

03 Copy artist to album artist

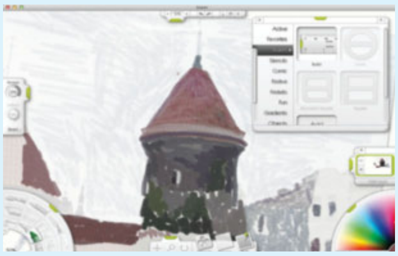
iTunes doesn't always duplicate the Artist name in the Album Artist field. Download **Artist to Album Artist** (**http://dougscripts.com/409**) and once installed as a script, select the offending tracks and select Script > Artist to Album Artist to rectify the problem. ●

07 Listen to music for free from your browser

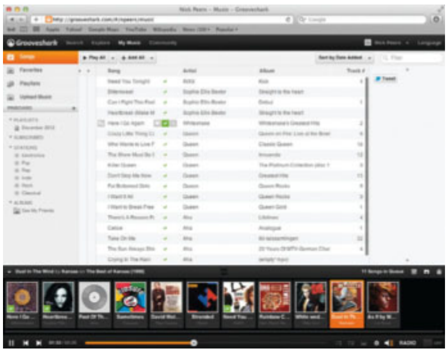
If you're yearning to discover new sounds (or rediscover old classics), but can't afford to pay for the privilege, head over to Grooveshark (**www.grooveshark.com**). Click Explore to browse for new music, or search for a specific artist or track. Click the track name to listen to it, then sign up for a free account to build playlists, a library or to share music with friends. The service is ad-supported; remove them by signing up for a premium account.

08 Unleash your artistic potential

Fancy having a go at painting on your Mac? *ArtRage 2 Starter Edition* (**http://http://bit.ly/cBepJV**) lets you paint using a variety of brushes, pencils, crayons and other painting tools and on a number of different surfaces. It's quick, simple and intuitive to use, and you can load in favourite photos to trace over too.



Express your artistic side with ArtRage 2.



Build your own radio station with Grooveshark.

09 Add speakers to your Mac

Your Mac's built-in speakers aren't designed for heavy duty use, although they're perfectly adequate for system sounds and the like. But if you want to fully immerse yourself in a game or make the most of *iTunes*, you'll want to plug in a dedicated set of speakers. MacBook users should take a look at Altec Lansing's Orbit USB speakers (£33, **www.alteclansing.co.uk**); those with iMacs or cinema displays should take a look at the Xtreme Mac Tango Bar (£90, Apple Store).

10 Buy a decent pair of headphones

If you regularly play games, listen to music or watch movies and video on your Mac with a pair of headphones plugged in, you could be missing out. Cheap headphones deliver a limited range of sounds, with bass muffled or lacking and vocals drowned out in a sea of noise. And if you're still using the white buds that came with your iPod, you have our sympathies.

Of course you can spend a bewildering amount on a pair of phones – just take a look at the £750 Ultrasone Signature PRO cans at **www.ultrasone.com**. While these aren't a realistic option for the vast majority of us, that doesn't mean you have to live without quality sound.

Take a look at Audio Technica's ATH-ES7 wired headphones (£130, **www.superfi.co.uk**). While still expensive, they provide a crisp, clean sound across the entire spectrum, from pumping bass to soaring vocals. They'll sound great with your iPod too!

audio-technica
ATH-ES7

Audio Technica's ATH-ES7 deliver music and video with a real pop.

11 Top 5 free apps to try

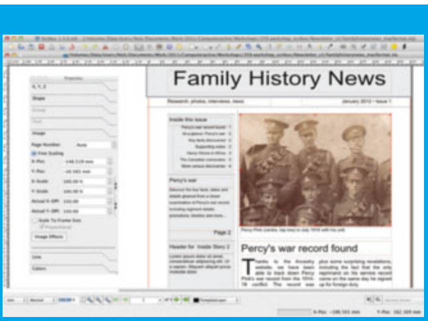
Why spend hundreds of pounds on software when you can often get all the functionality you need for free? Take a look at the following five apps, all of which are free and will help make you more productive.

Scribus (www.scribus.net): A desktop publishing alternative to *QuarkXpress* and *Adobe InDesign*, perfect for designing more complex newsletters, brochures and other publications.

GIMP (www.gimp.org): Why fork out for an image editor when you can have the power of *Photoshop* for free? If you find the panes, filters and brushes of *GIMP* a little impenetrable, try *SeaShore* (**http://seashore.sourceforge.net**) instead. It's based on *GIMP*, but features an interface and toolset that's aimed at less advanced users.

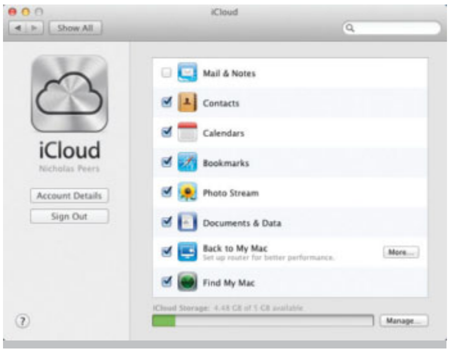
Inkscape (http://inkscape.org): This capable vector drawing program offers the features of *Adobe Illustrator* and *CorelDRAW* for free.

SketchUp (http://sketchup.google.com): 3D modelling tools aren't just traditionally expensive, they're also difficult to use. Google's *SketchUp* application knocks both assumptions for six – it's not just provided free, it's easy to get to grips with, too.



Scribus is a great free desktop publishing tool.

LibreOffice (www.libreoffice.org): Looking for a free office application suite? *LibreOffice* offers a comprehensive range: it packs a capable word processor, a spreadsheet, a presentations package, a database and a drawing tool in one complete suite.



☐ Mail & Notes
☑ Contacts
☑ Calendars
☑ Bookmarks
☑ Photo Stream
☑ Documents & Data
☑ Back to My Mac
Set up router for better performance.
☑ Find My Mac

Set up and manage your iCloud backup and sync settings from this System Preferences pane.

12 Sign up for iCloud

Have you signed up for iCloud yet? You're missing a trick if you don't – iCloud makes it easy to keep your mail, contacts, photos, documents and more effortlessly synchronised between all your Macs and iOS devices. It'll even sync certain items with Windows PCs too.

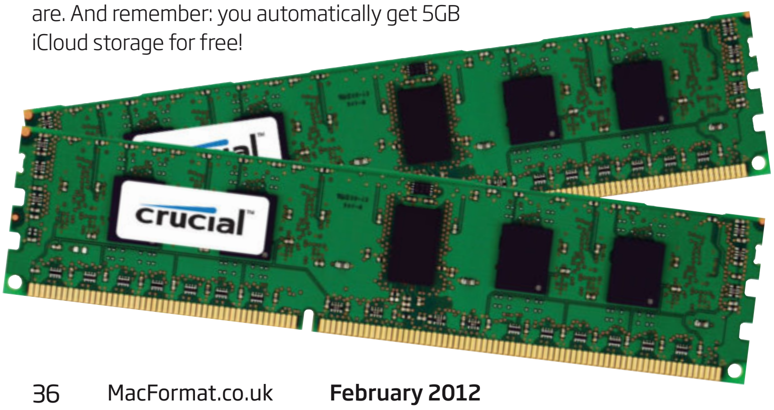
You'll need OS X 10.7.2 installed, but once it's in place, just sign in with your Apple ID, choose what to sync and that's it. Within minutes your devices will be wirelessly talking to each other, making sure you have access to your precious photos, documents and settings wherever you are. And remember: you automatically get 5GB iCloud storage for free!

13 Plot your next hike, jog or bike ride

Let your Mac help you find suitable routes for your fitness regime with the help of a free app called *Trail Runner* (www.trailrunnerx.com). This helps you plot local routes for biking, hiking and running. Get started by clicking the Community button to find local routes entered by others, or create your own from scratch by plotting your own course on the map. Once created, you can sync your route with your iPod, iPhone or other mobile device. You'll be covering more distance in no time!

14 Beef up your Mac's system memory

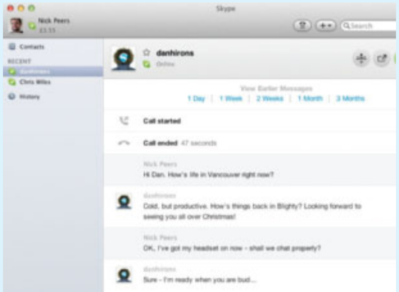
One of the most effective ways you can speed up your Mac – particularly if you're running Lion with just 2GB RAM – is to double or even quadruple your memory. For many Macs, it's the simplest upgrade you can perform, in which case save yourself some serious dosh and source your memory from a site like Crucial (www.crucial.com/uk) where an 8GB upgrade for the 2011 Mac mini costs just £35 at time of writing. Check out *MF234* and follow our tutorial on maxing out your Mac's RAM. If you're unhappy opening up your Mac, contact your local Apple retailer to get an estimate for a fitting.



With RAM prices so low, add as much to your Mac as you can.

15 Stay in touch with far-flung friends and family for free

The cost of phone calls – particularly abroad – can be prohibitive, but the good news is that you can make voice and video calls for free using your internet connection. Download *Skype* from **www.skype.com** and get your contacts to do the same. Then you can find out when they're online and make a direct video or voice call using your webcam and headset. *Skype* is extremely simple to set up and will save you a fortune in phone charges. You can even use it to place voice calls to phones worldwide at a fraction of the cost of your landline or mobile tariff. *Skype's* been around for years – isn't it time you got in on the act?



Call started
Call ended 47 seconds

Nick Peers
Hi Dan. How's life in Vancouver right now?

danhirons
Cold, but productive. How's things back in Blighty? Looking forward to seeing you all over Christmas!

Nick Peers
OK, I've got my headset on now – shall we chat properly?

danhirons
Sure – I'm ready when you are bud...

Reconnect with friends and family worldwide without paying a penny, thanks to Skype.

16 Watch and record TV on your Mac

It's possible to watch both live and catch-up TV on your Mac over the internet, using services such as BBC iPlayer (**www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer**) and TVCatchup (**www.tvcatchup.com**). But you can also turn your Mac into a fully functioning TV with recording capabilities. Plug in the Elgato EyeTV Diversity (£85, **www.pixmania.co.uk**), connect it up to your TV aerial and you can watch and record digital Freeview on your Mac. Thanks to its dual tuners, you can even watch one show while recording another. Combine it with the Apple TV and you stream your recordings back to your HD TV.

Use TV internet services, or turn your Mac into a fully functional TV set with PVR capabilities.

1
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MacBook Pro

17 Take your Apple kit completely wireless

Frustrated at having to switch on a computer just to access its shared printer? Annoyed because you can't listen to your *iTunes* library in another room? Replace your existing router with an Airport Express (£79, Apple Store), set it up next to your home stereo or speakers and you'll be able to stream music direct from any *iTunes* library on your network direct to that room. Better still, plug in your USB printer to the Airport Express and you'll be able to print directly to it without having to faff about with shared printers or switching on another computer first.

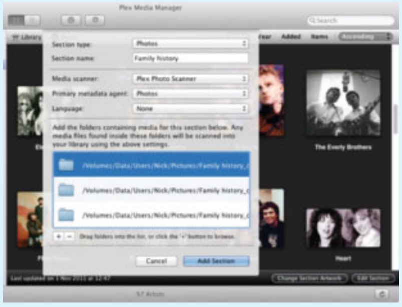
18 Stream video from your Mac to your TV

If you've got a big-screen TV, imagine watching some of the video content stored on your Mac on it. Rather than attempt to set up your Mac in the same room as your TV, why not invest in an Apple TV (£99, Apple Store)? You'll need a HD TV with a spare HDMI port for it to work, but once you've set it up, it won't just stream video content (and photos from Photo Stream) from your Mac, iPad 2 or iPhone 4S. It will also enable you to access lots of online content on it, from YouTube to HD film rentals, all streamed directly to your television.

19 Set up a media server

Got an old Mac (or discarded PC) lying about? Why not convert it into a dedicated media server using *Plex* (**www.plexapp.com**). *Plex* uses a slick and easy-to-navigate interface for you to access your media. Once configured and set up – a simple process – you can store your video, music and photos in one central location, then access it from other computers on your network.

You can even purchase the iOS app (£2.99, App Store) to stream content to your iPad or iPhone while on the move. With a bit of legwork (see the wiki at **http://wiki.plexapp.com/index.php/Main_Page** for details) you can also set up your media server so that you can access it while away from home.


Plex Media Manager
Search
Library
Year
Added
Items
Ascending
The Everly Brothers
Heart
Cancel
Add Section
Change Section Artwork
Edit Section
57 Artists

Section type: Photos
Section name: Family history
Media scanner: Plex Photo Scanner
Primary metadata agent: Photos
Language: None

Add the folders containing media for this section below. Any media files found inside these folders will be scanned into your library using the above settings.

/Volumes/Data/Users/Nick/Pictures/Family history_
/Volumes/Data/Users/Nick/Pictures/Family history_
/Volumes/Data/Users/Nick/Pictures/Family history_

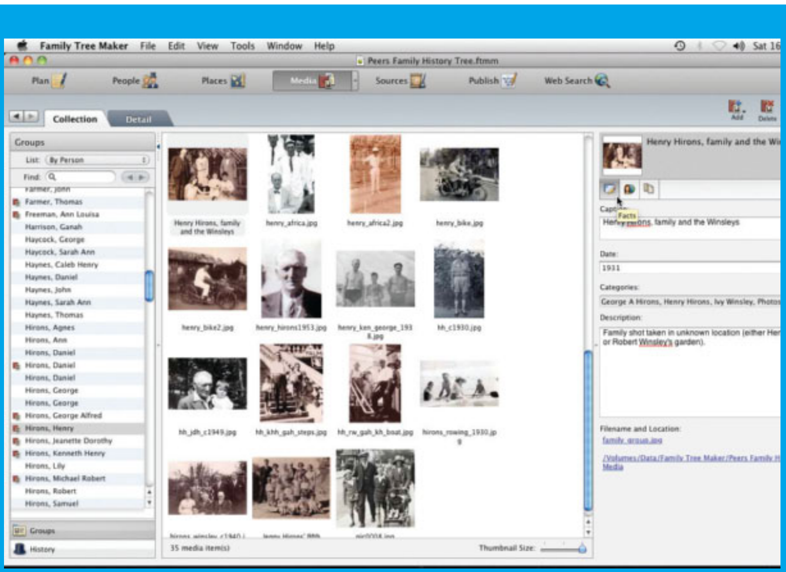
Drag folders into the list, or click the '+' button to browse.

Last updated on 1 Nov 2011 at 12:47

Turn an unused computer into a dedicated media server with the help of the free Plex app.

20 Research your family tree

Your Mac, coupled with the internet, is the perfect tool for family history research. You have a choice of two heavyweight apps – *MacFamilyTree* (£42, App Store) or *Family Tree Maker 2.0* (£48, App Store). The latter includes a six-monthly free Premium subscription to **Ancestry.co.uk** where you'll find all the records you need to start building your tree. The records are easily searchable from within the app, which can also download and merge them into your research for easy access. Version 2.0 also introduces *TreeSync*, which allows you to keep your research synchronised between computer, web browser and iPhone or iPad via the free *Ancestry 3.0.1* app. Plus, of course, there's all the great features from the original version that secured it a five-star rating back in *MacFormat* issue 230.


Family Tree Maker
File
Edit
View
Tools
Window
Help
Sat 16
Peers Family History Tree.ftmm
Plan
People
Places
Media
Sources
Publish
Web Search
Collection
Detail
Add
Delete
Groups
List: By Person
Find:
Farmer, Thomas
Freeman, Ann Louisa
Harrison, Ganah
Haycock, George
Haycock, Sarah Ann
Haynes, Caleb Henry
Haynes, Daniel
Haynes, John
Haynes, Sarah Ann
Haynes, Thomas
Hirons, Agnes
Hirons, Ann
Hirons, Daniel
Hirons, Daniel
Hirons, Daniel
Hirons, George
Hirons, George
Hirons, George Alfred
Hirons, Henry
Hirons, Jeanette Dorothy
Hirons, Kenneth Henry
Hirons, Lily
Hirons, Michael Robert
Hirons, Robert
Hirons, Samuel
Groups
History
Henry Hirons, family and the Winsleys
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henry_africa2.jpg
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henry_ken_george_1938.jpg
hh_c1930.jpg
hh_jdh_c1949.jpg
hh_khh_gah_steps.jpg
hh_rw_gah_kh_boat.jpg
hirons_rowing_1930.jpg
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Henry Hirons, family and the Wi
Facts

Caption: Henry Hirons, family and the Winsleys
Date: 1931
Categories: George A Hirons, Henry Hirons, Ivy Winsley, Photos
Description: Family shot taken in unknown location (either Her or Robert Winsley's garden).
Filename and Location: family_group.jpg
/Volumes/Data/Family Tree Maker/Peers Family H Media

Bring all your family research and photos together with the fine Family Tree Maker.

»

ION
QUICK PLAY LP

Transfer your old vinyl collection to your Mac for easy, digital listening.

21 Digitise your music collection

Ripping CDs to your Mac is simplicity itself with *iTunes*, but what about your vinyl or cassette collection? If you've still got a turntable and/or cassette recorder, the simplest solution is to purchase a USB 2.0 audio capture cable, which plugs into your home stereo at one end and your Mac at the other. ClimaxDigital (**www.climaxdigital.co.uk**) sells such cables for just £15. If you don't have a means of playing your old music, take a look at Ion Audio's range of USB turntables and cassette recorders – they're widely available online and in the shops from stores like Maplin (just search for 'USB turntable'), with prices starting from £40.

22 Make some money

Clear out the clutter and raise some cash at the same time by selling your unwanted kit through eBay (www.ebay.co.uk) or Amazon Marketplace (www.amazon.co.uk). Your Mac can help here too – by forming part of an efficient portable photo studio. Armed with a portable kit like Photxpro's Mini Photo Studio (£32, www.fstopdirect.com), you can give your product photos a professional look through the supplied lights, tripod and photo tent, which gives you a plain background to shoot on. Once done, just transfer your photos over to your Mac, ready to add to your listings.

Improve your eBay listings by creating top product photos.

23 Start using iMovie

Whenever you plug in your phone or iPad, up pops *iPhoto* to grab your attention. It's a nifty tool for your photos, and can manage your video too. But if you really want to spruce up your home videos, you should use *iMovie* instead. From here you can quickly and easily edit your videos, correct basic mistakes, add Hollywood-style effects and put together a full movie from a series of clips.

The latest version even lets you create themed projects, providing effect-laden transitions between scenes and allowing you to really give your home movie footage a lift. Go on, impress your family with a pro home movie!

24 Put your finances in order with the right app

Another way to improve your cashflow is to monitor your incomings and outgoings – that way you don't spend what you don't have, avoiding costly overdraft charges and loan expenses.

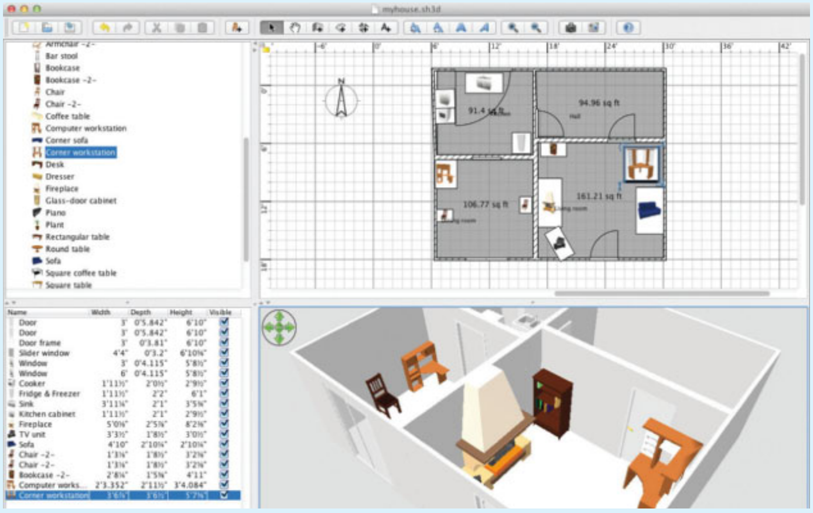
You can set up a simple spreadsheet in *Numbers* (or *LibreOffice Calc* if you're looking for a free alternative), or save yourself time and hassle by using a dedicated personal finance tool.

There are many excellent applications out there, but again, if money is tight you can manage your finances for free – try *Buddi* (available from http://buddi.digitalcave.ca). Commit to regularly updating it, and you'll be pleasantly surprised at how simply recording your transactions helps boost your bank balance.

25 Redesign your home – virtually

Getting a professional company to redesign the rooms of your house is an expensive and time-consuming undertaking – and there's no guarantee they'll be able to come up with a plan that you like. Why not do it yourself?

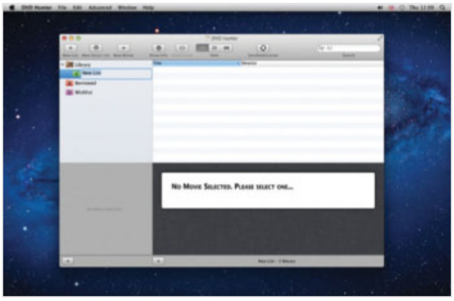
But don't waste time and effort rearranging all the furniture in your home – before committing to any revamp, download and launch a free Java app called *Sweet Home 3D* (**www.sweethome3d.com**) first. You can then set up your rooms: walls, doors and windows. Next, place furniture in each room – many basic types are provided, and more can be downloaded through the *Sweet Home 3D* website. Once everything's in place, take a virtual 3D tour, and then start rearranging your furniture to see how different layouts will look, all without giving yourself a hernia in the process.

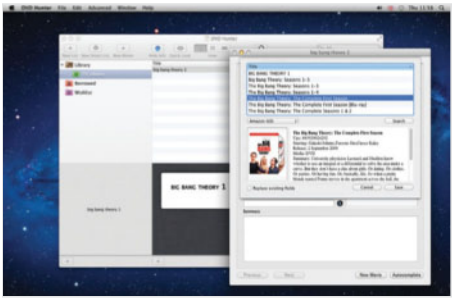


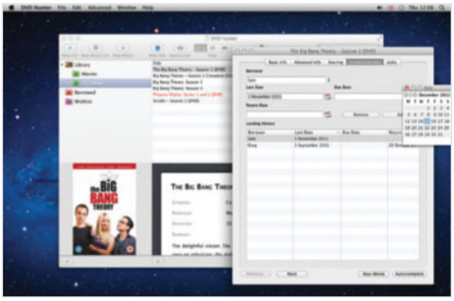
Name	Width	Depth	Height	Visible
Door	3'	0'5.842"	6'10"	☑
Door	3'	0'5.842"	6'10"	☑
Door frame	3'	0'3.81"	6'10"	☑
Slider window	4'4"	0'3.2"	6'10½"	☑
Window	3'	0'4.115"	5'8½"	☑
Window	6'	0'4.115"	5'8½"	☑
Cooker	1'11½"	2'0½"	2'9½"	☑
Fridge & Freezer	1'11½"	2'2"	6'1"	☑
Sink	3'11¼"	2'1"	3'5⅛"	☑
Kitchen cabinet	1'11½"	2'1"	2'9½"	☑
Fireplace	5'0⅛"	2'5⅜"	8'2⅛"	☑
TV unit	3'3½"	1'8½"	3'0½"	☑
Sofa	4'10"	2'10⅛"	2'10⅛"	☑
Chair -2-	1'3⅛"	1'8½"	3'2⅛"	☑
Chair -2-	1'3⅛"	1'8½"	3'2⅛"	☑
Bookcase -2-	2'8⅛"	1'5⅜"	4'11"	☑
Computer works...	2'3.352"	2'11½"	3'4.084"	☑
Corner workstation	3'6½"	3'6½"	5'7⅝"	☑

Don't bother paying for a design. Give your home your own virtual makeover with Sweet Home 3D.

» TIP 26 / Manage your media collection for free







01 First steps

Visit **http://software.joelares.net/blog** and click the **Software** menu to download *DVD Hunter*, *Book Hunter* and/or *Game Hunter*. Double-click the downloaded DMG to install. Launch the application. Click **New List** to create a category for your first item to be stored in.

02 Input item details

Now click **New Movie**, **New Book** or **New Game**. Enter the title of your item plus extra information to identify it, such as director or author's surname. Click **Autocomplete**. A list of potential matches will be shown – select Amazon (UK) from the drop-down list.

03 Review and move on

Fill in any details, then click **New Movie** to start again. It won't take long to build up your collection – close the box to create new lists for different categories of book, game or DVD. Open the item and select **Lending History** when someone has borrowed an item. ●

27 Start blogging

Do you have a passion for cars? A special interest in pedigree breeds? An extensive list of food recipes or drinks cocktails? Then why not create online presence around it? Not only is it fun to run, you get to share your knowledge with like-minded folk. The easiest and cheapest way to get yourself a website is through a blog. If you're just starting out, look at Blogger (**www.blogger.com**) or Tumblr (**www.tumblr.com**) for ease of use and simplicity. But if you really want to push the boat out – and craft a more general purpose website around your daily blog – then take a look at WordPress (**www.wordpress.org**). All three services provide free hosting, so all you need to do is sign up for a free account, choose a style and start posting.

Blogger does all the hard design work for you.

28 Write and publish your own ebook

It's never been easier to get your writing published professionally. And devices like the Kindle and Sony Reader Wi-Fi make it possible to publish without having to print a single physical copy of your book.

Compose your book using dedicated software like *Sigil* (**http://code.google.com/p/sigil**), which allows you to create books in the universally popular EPUB format. Once complete, the book can be distributed to friends with compatible ebook readers; or you can sign up for a service like lulu.com to publish and sell your ebook online, with no up-front costs to pay.

29 Keep track of your research or articles

Mendeley (**www.mendeley.com**) is a free cloud-based service aimed at academics and researchers for organising their research, journals and published articles. But you don't need to be an academic to make use of it – we've used it to organise a series of PDFs and DOCs containing articles and magazines, for example.

It's simple to use – sign up, download the free desktop tool and start importing the files you wish to organise, which are securely stored in the cloud for backup and sync purposes. You can then access them through your web browser or iPhone and iPad with the *Mendeley Lite* app.

30 Play a real instrument with your Mac

If you've got *GarageBand* then you'll know how it's possible to compose music using an on-screen keyboard. Why settle for virtual, though, when the real thing delivers a much better experience? USB keyboards are widely available – try to plump for a model with at least 49 full-size keys for the best possible experience. M-Audio's Keystudio 49 (£80, Apple Store) is a great entry-level device to try, but if you've got an older keyboard with MIDI ports stashed away in the attic, Google 'MIDI USB' for a suitable cable (less than £25) to hook it up to your Mac instead.

Free your creative juices by ditching the virtual keyboard for a real one.

»

Improve your iPad

Take your iPad to the next level with these tips

01 Make some noise - Get GarageBand

There are lots of music-making apps for iOS, from games to serious production tools. Our favourite, though is Apple's *GarageBand*. It's remarkably easy to pick up and get started, great fun, and yet is very capable of being used as a serious music production tool. Combine it with a guitar interface, such as Apogee's Jam, and you can emulate your favourite guitarist without waking the neighbours.

02 Plug in some serious speakers

You have three choices if you want to hook your iPad up to a set of speakers. You can plug it into a speaker dock, connect its earphone jack to the auxiliary input of an amplifier, or stream music wirelessly. The wireless option is pricey, but elegant. Go this route and you can choose form an AirPlay system like Altec Lansing's InAir 5000 or a proprietary wireless solution like Arcam's lovely rCube.

Arcam's rCube uses Kleer wireless technology to stream high-quality audio.

03 Get an iPad keyboard case

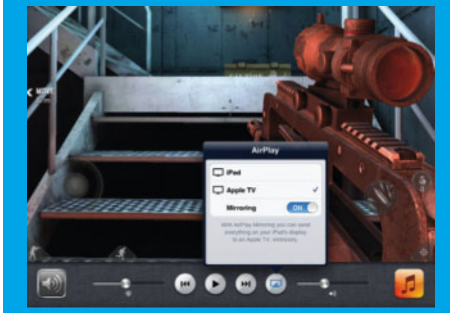
The iPad's keyboard is perfectly usable, but if you type any more than the occasional email, you'll want to invest in a better one. Apple's own Keyboard Dock holds the iPad at an angle and is lovely to use. If you'd rather have one with a case, have a look at Zagg's ZaggFolio: it also works as a stand and a keyboard. If you want something more robust, have a look at Logitech's Keyboard Case for iPad 2, which has an aluminium base to protect the keyboard.

04 Print wirelessly with AirPrint

Apple's AirPrint is a brilliant tool for printing documents from your iPad wirelessly. It supports documents from Apple's *iWork* apps, *Safari, Mail, Maps, Notes*, and PDFs in *iBooks*. And it automatically detects AirPrint-compatible printers on your Wi-Fi network. There is a catch, however. AirPrint is currently only compatible with a handful of printers from Epson and HP. If you don't have one of those, you can't use it. There is an answer, however, in the form of *Printopia* (see page 43). If you do have an AirPrint-compatible printer, printing documents wirelessly from your iPad is easy. It automatically selects photo paper, if the printer has some loaded in a tray, when you print a photo. And you can line up multiple jobs in a queue.

05 Mirroring with your Apple TV

AirPlay mirroring is set to change the way we play video games. Add an Apple TV 2 to an iPad 2 and you can mirror the display on the iPad's screen on your TV. This is great for apps that use video, but the biggest beneficiaries are games. Those which have already been written to take advantage of AirPlay mirroring, such as *Modern Combat 3* and *RealRacing 2 HD* have shown what's possible. In both games the iPad becomes the controller while your TV is the display. In *RealRacing 2 HD* you can even have multiple players, using different iPads and playing in a split-screen view.



Mirror your iPad's screen on an Apple TV's.

9
NINE DIGITAL - 1:00 PM — 4:00 PM
Sports live
Next: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM - Kerri-Anne
eyetv mobile

Elgato's EyeTV Mobile allows you to watch Freeview TV, over the air, on your iPad 2.

06 Watch non-iTunes videos on your iPad

If you've ever tried to watch video stored on your Mac on an iPad, you'll know the constraints. The iPad only supports a very limited number of formats, as does iTunes. So if you have, say, DivX or Windows Media files, you can't watch them in the *Videos* app. Happily, there are other apps, such as *StreamToMe* and *AVPlayer HD* which can help. The former allows you to stream movies in a number of different formats, to your iPad. The latter provides a means to copy files to your iPad and watch them. On both apps, you can mirror the video to Apple TV to watch on a big screen. Meanwhile, media services such as Zumocast convert video as it's being streamed.

07 Watch terrestrial TV on your iPad

The iPad makes a surprisingly good TV and there are no shortage of apps and gadgets to help you watch live and on-demand content. Your first stop should be the BBC's *iPlayer* app, but there's also *ITV Player* and *4oD Catch Up*. Channel 5 has an app too. There's also *TV CatchUp*, which allows you to watch on-demand content from dozens of cable TV stations. If you'd rather watch live television, Elgato's EyeTV Mobile plugs into the Dock connector and allows you to watch over-the-air live TV.

08 Use an iPad as a second Mac display

If you use a MacBook as your main computer or if your desktop's display just isn't big enough, there's nothing to stop you from adding extra screen space using your iPad. *Air Display* allows you to use one as a second display, so long as it's connected to the same Wi-Fi network as your Mac. You configure it in *System Preferences*, the same as you would if it were a second monitor. And you can even use the iPad as an input device, for example as a control surface for *Logic*. Use it with a stand to allow you iPad to sit next to your main display.

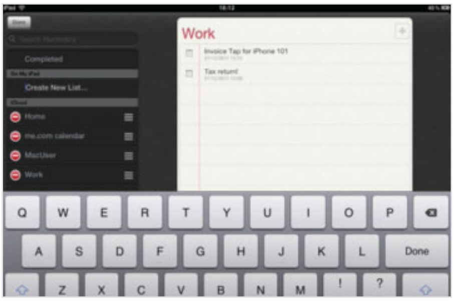
09 Tethering from your iPhone or MiFi

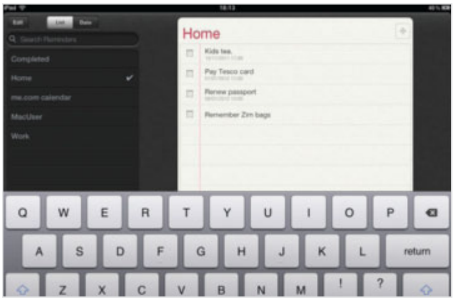
If you have a Wi-Fi-only iPad, you may find that there are occasions when you need to get online and there isn't a Wi-Fi hotspot in sight. The answer is to tether the iPad to a device that has a 3G data connection such as an iPhone or a Three MiFi. To use an iPhone, go to *Settings* on the iPhone and tap Personal Hotspot. Switch it to 'On' and note the Wi-Fi password. Now, on the iPad, go to Wi-Fi in *Settings*, choose iPhone from the list and enter the password.

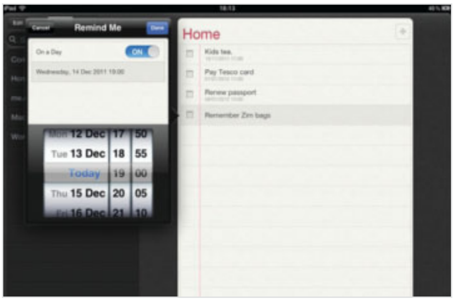
3
1023.99 MB 01:45

Three's MiFi dongle allows you to connect a Wi-Fi-only iPad to Three's cellular network.

» TIP 10 / Customise reminders


Work
Completed
Create New List...
Home
me.com calendar
MacUser
Work
Invoice Tap for iPhone 101
Tax return
Done


Home
Completed
Home
me.com calendar
MacUser
Work
Kids tea.
Pay Tesco card
Renew passport
Remember Zin bags
return


Cancel
Remind Me
Done
On a Day
ON
Mon 12 Dec
Tue 13 Dec
Today
Thu 15 Dec
Fri 16 Dec
Home
Kids tea.
Pay Tesco card
Renew passport
Remember Zin bags

01 Create a list

Tap the *Reminders* app on your iPad and swipe to the list to which you want to add the reminder. What do you mean you only have one list? Add more by tapping on **List** at the top of the screen, then **Edit** and **Create New List**. When you've named it, click **Done**.

02 Add reminders

Click the '+' symbol at the top of the screen in the list you're going to add to, then type the text of the reminder. Make it obvious enough that you'll know what it means, but keep it as short as possible. Click **Done** and tap on the new reminder. Now tap **Remind Me**.

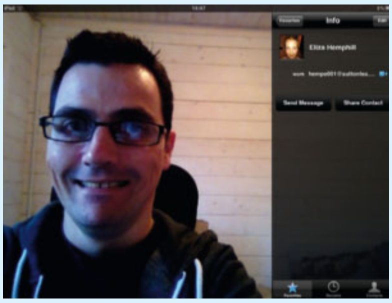
03 Set up an alert

On the next screen, slide the **On a Day** switch to On. The iPhone 4 and 4S allow you to set reminders by location, but on the iPad, you're limited to a date and time. Tap the date and slide the rollers to the date and time you want to be reminded. ●

»

11 Keep in touch with your friends and family

If you have iOS 5, you can use *iMessage* to keep in touch with family members. But if you want your conversation to be a little more personal, FaceTime and *Skype* both allow you to make video calls. To use FaceTime, both parties will have to be using an Apple device, either Mac or iOS. *Skype*, however, allows you to chat to anyone on any platform, as long as you both have *Skype* installed. You can also use *Skype* to make cheap international calls to a regular landline telephone.



FaceTime makes it easy to chat with other Mac or iOS users. Use Skype for everyone else.

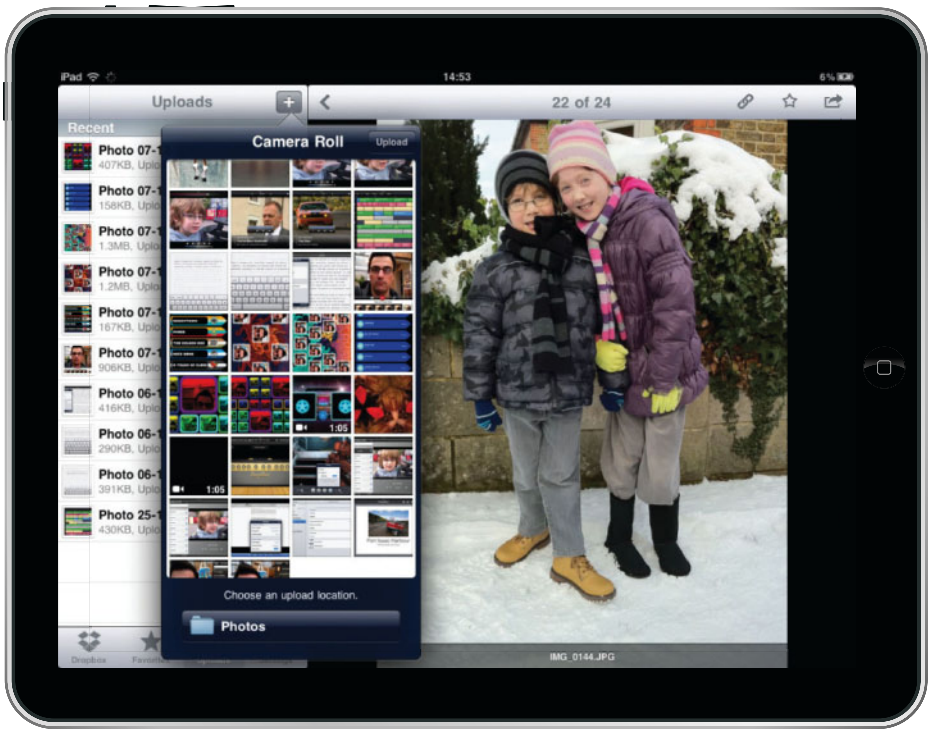
12 Remotely access a Mac from your iPad

Say you leave a document on your computer at work, being able to read it on a Mac or a PC would come in very handy. There are a few apps that allow you to do this. *Splashtop Remote Desktop* enables you to connect to a Mac or PC on a local Wi-Fi network and control it remotely. If you have a Google account, you can also access a computer over the internet. *LogMeIn Ignition* works differently. You connect to a central server from your iPad and from there you can access any machine that is associated with your account – provided it's switched on, of course.

Both tools allow you to use applications that are installed on your computer, on your iPad. And they even provide a method by which you can view Flash content. *LogMeIn Ignition* also allows you to transfer files between computer and iPad using its file manager.

13 Use your iPad as a digital photo frame

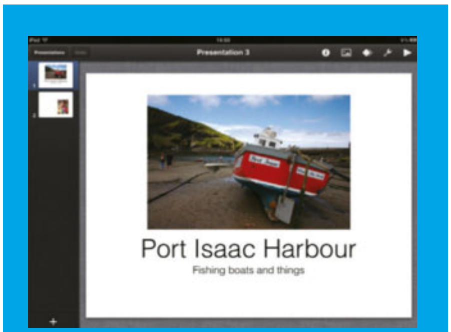
Your iPad, when mounted on a suitable stand, can be used as a lovely, if expensive, digital photo frame. To see how it works, when the screen is locked, tap the flower icon to the right of the unlock slider. You can specify which images are included and how they are shown in the *Settings* app. Go to Picture Frame in *Settings* and tap Album to specify which photographs you want to display. You can also specify how long each photo should be displayed for, whether to zoom in on faces, and which transition to use between images. If anything, it makes fine use of your iPad when you're not actually using it.



Dropbox is a brilliant service for sharing files and photographs between your iPad and your Mac.

14 Share files with your Mac using sync services

Despite the lack of a proper file system on the iPad, sharing files with your Mac is remarkably easy. If you have an iCloud account, some apps, such as *Pages* and *Numbers* allow you to share files that way. Others allow you to use Dropbox (http://dropbox.com) as an intermediary. You can set up your own account and bag 2GB of storage for free. Apps that don't support iCloud or Dropbox usually rely on *iTunes*. In this case, connect your iPad to your Mac, click on it and then click on the Apps tab. At the bottom of the window, you'll see the File Sharing heading. Click on an app underneath it and drag files into the window opposite to transfer them. And that's all there is to it. Whoever said the iPad couldn't deal with file sharing?



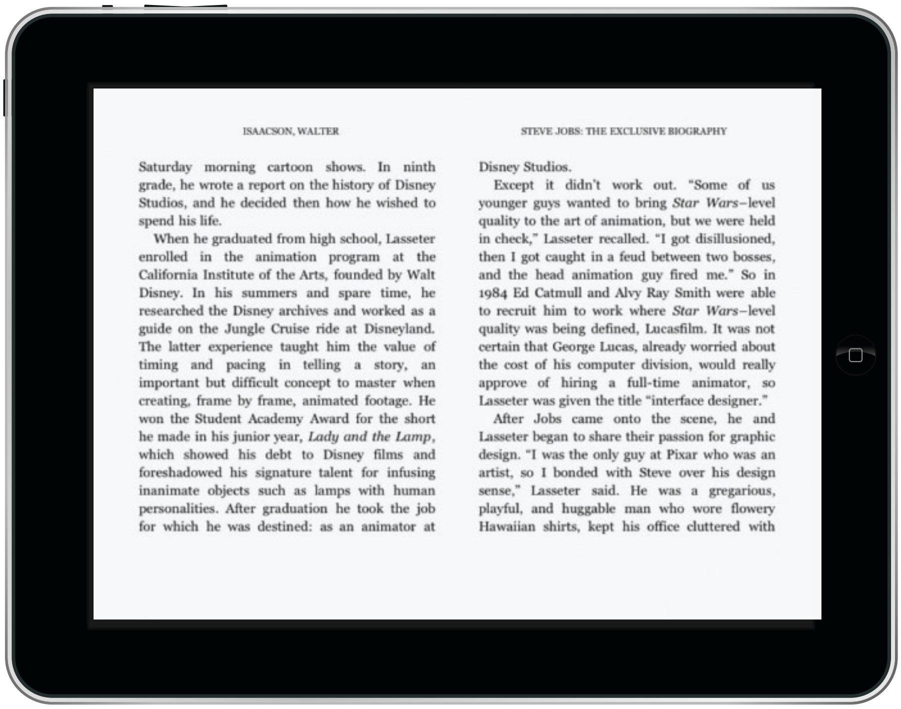
Port Isaac Harbour

Fishing boats and things

Rather than have everyone hunched around your iPad, connect it to a projector instead.

15 Hook it up to a projector to deliver presentations

The neatest way to deliver presentations is wirelessly using AirPlay. But for that you need an iPad 2 and an Apple TV. A simpler solution is to use one of three cables from Apple. You can buy either a composite, component, or HDMI adaptor to plug it into your iPad. Then, using *Keynote* for iOS, you can deliver your presentation on a projector or display, while controlling it, and viewing notes or slides, on the iPad. The HDMI cable also allows you to mirror the output from an iPad 2 on an external display.



ISAACSON, WALTER

Saturday morning cartoon shows. In ninth grade, he wrote a report on the history of Disney Studios, and he decided then how he wished to spend his life.

When he graduated from high school, Lasseter enrolled in the animation program at the California Institute of the Arts, founded by Walt Disney. In his summers and spare time, he researched the Disney archives and worked as a guide on the Jungle Cruise ride at Disneyland. The latter experience taught him the value of timing and pacing in telling a story, an important but difficult concept to master when creating, frame by frame, animated footage. He won the Student Academy Award for the short he made in his junior year, *Lady and the Lamp*, which showed his debt to Disney films and foreshadowed his signature talent for infusing inanimate objects such as lamps with human personalities. After graduation he took the job for which he was destined: as an animator at

STEVE JOBS: THE EXCLUSIVE BIOGRAPHY

Disney Studios.

Except it didn't work out. "Some of us younger guys wanted to bring *Star Wars*–level quality to the art of animation, but we were held in check," Lasseter recalled. "I got disillusioned, then I got caught in a feud between two bosses, and the head animation guy fired me." So in 1984 Ed Catmull and Alvy Ray Smith were able to recruit him to work where *Star Wars*–level quality was being defined, Lucasfilm. It was not certain that George Lucas, already worried about the cost of his computer division, would really approve of hiring a full-time animator, so Lasseter was given the title "interface designer."

After Jobs came onto the scene, he and Lasseter began to share their passion for graphic design. "I was the only guy at Pixar who was an artist, so I bonded with Steve over his design sense," Lasseter said. He was a gregarious, playful, and huggable man who wore flowery Hawaiian shirts, kept his office cluttered with

Amazon's Kindle Reader allows you to read Kindle books on your iPad and is an excellent alternative to iBooks.

16 Use your iPad as a Kindle reader

Amazon's Kindle readers are second only to the iPad in the tablet popularity stakes, despite having a single function: to download and read ebooks. If you've used *iBooks* on iOS but been frustrated by the limited number of titles, download Amazon's *Kindle* app to your iPad. By setting your iPad as your Kindle reader of choice on your Amazon account, you can download books from Amazon's website and send them directly to the iPad.

17 Print to a non-AirPrint printer

The problem with AirPrint is that it only supports a handful of printers. If you don't happen to have one of those, you're stymied. Install *Printopia* (from http://ecamm.com) on your Mac, however, and you can print to any printer on your Wi-Fi network from your iPad. The only stipulation is that your Mac must be on when you want to print. It's a doddle to set up and also allows you to send documents to Dropbox, Evernote, or a PDF workflow.

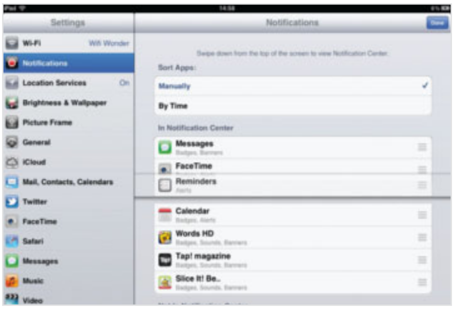
18 Set up Restrictions

If you have children, the chances are that sooner or later, you'll end up sharing your iPad with them. You may not, however, want them to be able to have free access to everything you have access to. The answer to is to set Restrictions. Go to Settings > General > Restrictions. You'll be asked to set up a four-digit passcode. From there, you can block some apps completely, but more importantly you can prevent apps being installed, block in-app purchases, and set age restrictions on content. ●

19 Use Google Street View in Maps

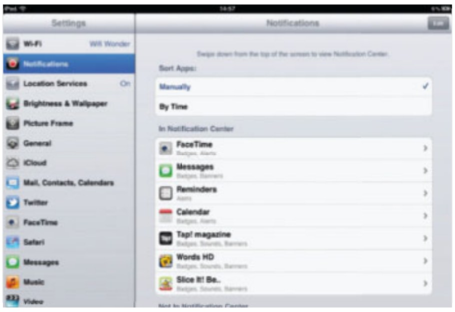
In Google's *Maps* app, navigate to the location you want to view, so that the street in question is on screen. Now tap the page curl on the bottom left of the screen and then tap Drop Pin. Drag the pin to the place you want to view. Tap it, then tap the 'i' icon. You'll see a thumbnail of the Street View. Tap it! Finally, tap the map to return.

» TIP 20 / Customise alerts and notifications


Settings
Notifications
Wi-Fi
Notifications
Location Services
Brightness & Wallpaper
Picture Frame
General
iCloud
Mail, Contacts, Calendars
Twitter
FaceTime
Safari
Messages
Music
Video
Sort Apps:
Manually
By Time
In Notification Center
Messages
FaceTime
Reminders
Calendar
Words HD
Tap! magazine
Slice It! Be..

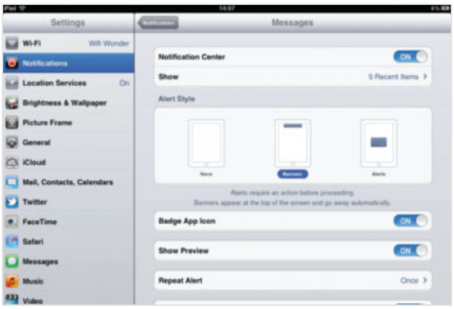
01 Organise notifications

Go to *Settings* then tap **Notifications**. Now tap each app, and in the window that opens switch **Notifications Center** on or off. To display them by app rather than chronologically, tap **Edit** and then drag the apps into the order you want using the handle to the right.


Settings
Notifications
Wi-Fi
Notifications
Location Services
Brightness & Wallpaper
Picture Frame
General
iCloud
Mail, Contacts, Calendars
Twitter
FaceTime
Safari
Messages
Music
Video
Sort Apps:
Manually
By Time
In Notification Center
FaceTime
Messages
Reminders
Calendar
Tap! magazine
Words HD
Slice It! Be..

02 Set alerts

Alerts are similar to notifications but you don't have to open **Notifications Center** to see them. So keep them for things like SMS messages and reminders. Go to **Notifications** in *Settings* and tap the first app for which you want to set an alert.


Settings
Messages
Notification Center
ON
Show
5 Recent Items
Alert Style
None
Banners
Alerts
Badge App Icon
ON
Show Preview
ON
Repeat Alert
Once

03 Choose alert type

Choose from **Banner** or **Alert**, and tell it whether you want a badge on the app's icon to show how many alerts there are, or if you want an audible alert. You can also choose to view alerts when the screen is locked. That's useful for quickly reading text messages. ●

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> *"The Orton Effect is native to Elements 10 but earlier versions can achieve it too"*

MAKE YOUR PHOTOS LOOK DREAMY P46

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File
Edit
Image
Enhance
Layer
Select
Filter
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Window
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MacFormat
Reset Panels
Undo
Redo
Organizer
Edit
Create
Share
Full
Quick
Guided
EFFECTS
CONTENT
LAYERS
Multiply
Opacity: 100%
Blur
Brightness
Background
Lock:
ADJUSTMENTS
Add an adjustment
No adjustment layer selected
OK
Cancel
PROJECT BIN

Brightness/Contrast
Learn more about: Brightness/Contrast
Brightness: 70
Contrast: 0
☑ Preview

How to...

PHOTOS ● MOVIES ● MUSIC ● OFFICE ● SYSTEM

Tim Hardwick
Production Editor

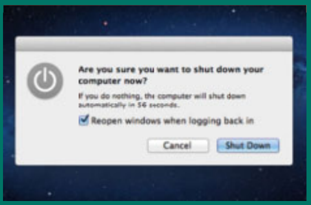
The saying 'The camera never lies' no longer rings true. Photo retouching is almost a given these days, and our memories of the events they record can almost take on a dream-like status of their own by comparison.

With that in mind, this month we're turning the tables by applying a dreamy semblance to snaps instead. It's called the 'Orton Effect', and you can learn how to apply it to your photos on page 46.

Phone cameras and compacts are getting better all the time. Our photo libraries have ballooned as a result – so on page 50 we'll show you how to best manage your collection using Aperture's sophisticated sorting tools.

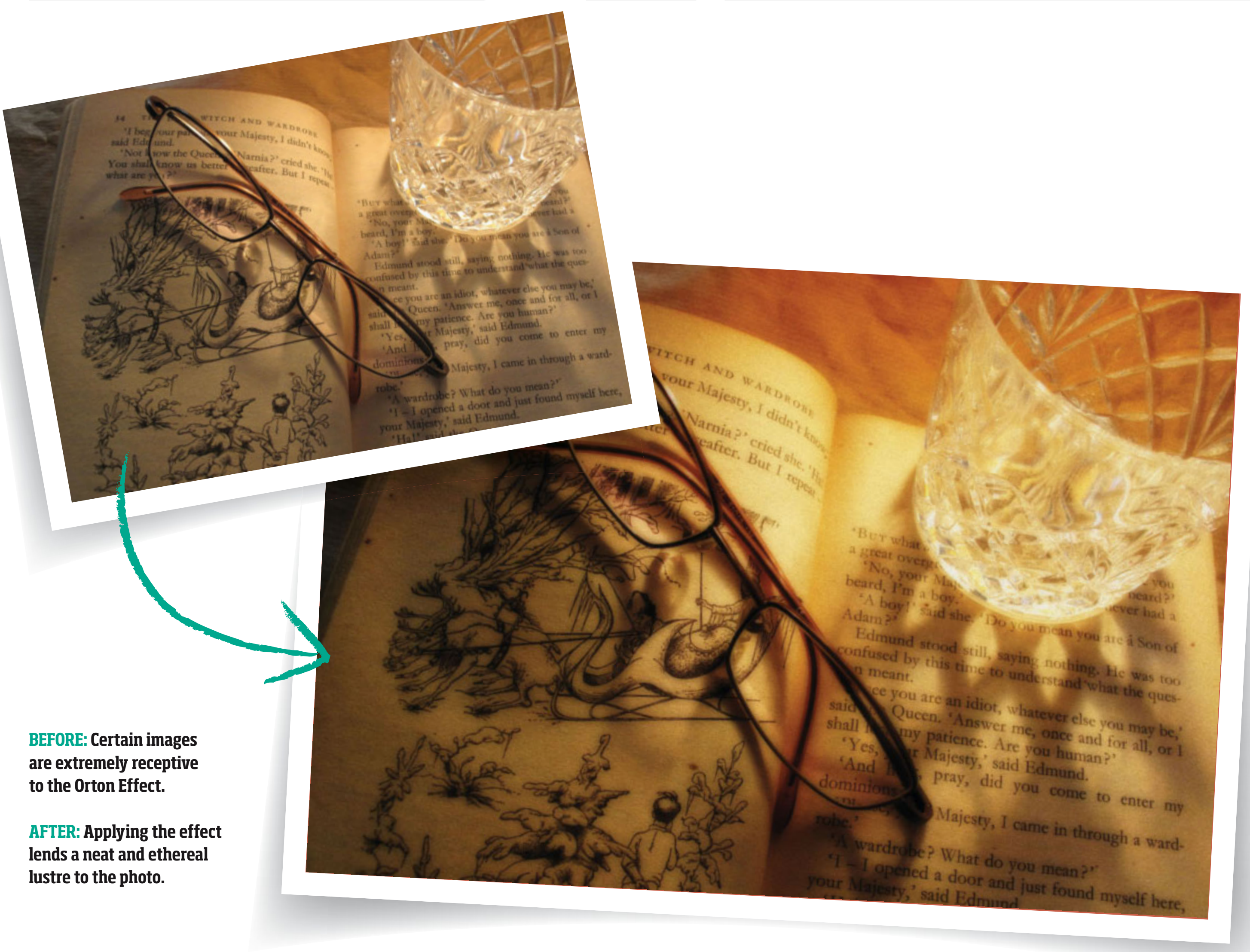
Two tutorials we're carrying this month show you how to get more out of *iWork*: on page 58 you'll find instructions on how to create professional-looking paragraph styles for use in your *Pages* documents; and on page 60 we've a guide to animating *Keynote* charts to spice up presentations.

I'm already planning what we're going to feature next month, but don't forget that we're always open to suggestions. Drop us a line at **macformat@futurenet.com**.


Are you sure you want to shut down your computer now?
If you do nothing, the computer will shut down automatically in 56 seconds.
☑ Reopen windows when logging back in
Cancel
Shut Down

>> DID YOU KNOW?

When shutting down Lion, you can skip the step that asks if you want your apps open on startup. Simply press ctrl + ⌥ + ⌘ + ⏏. Everything should close down instantly.



BEFORE: Certain images are extremely receptive to the Orton Effect.

AFTER: Applying the effect lends a neat and ethereal lustre to the photo.

Make photos look dreamy

The Orton Effect is native to Elements 10, but earlier versions can achieve it too

KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Expert

TIME NEEDED
15 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
Adobe Elements or Photoshop

Michael Orton is a fine-art and landscape photographer. He is also the creator of the 'Orton Effect'. This finish is based around a process whereby a copy of an image is blurred and then combined with the original to produce a soft, dreamlike effect. It's well-suited to portraits, but can be used to enhance many other subjects for which you want an ethereal, romanticised look.

It can be recreated digitally, with the advantage that you have much more control over the blur and the brightness of the finished image. It's also one of the new Guided Edit effects in *Elements 10*.

The Guided Edit mode is designed to walk you through sophisticated image-enhancement techniques in an easy-to-understand way. But what it produces, in this case, is a layered image that you can 'deconstruct' to find out how the effect has been achieved.

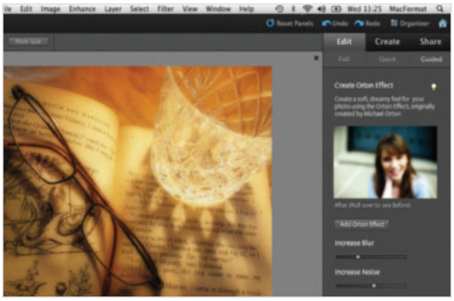
The principle of the Orton Effect is simple enough to be replicated without this Guided Edit mode. But since the results it produces are quite good, it's worthwhile trying to mirror it. It uses layers, blend modes, the Gaussian Blur and Add Noise filters, so it's something you can do in any version of *Photoshop* or *Elements*. The main difficulty is maintaining the brightness of the original image, since the blur effect comes from using the Multiply mode, which has a strong darkening effect. One way of doing this would be to add an adjustment layer at the end of the process. But the Guided Edit version of this effect adds a 'brightening' layer below the blur layer, and also brightens the blur layer itself, so this is the process we've used in the walkthrough.

> *"The effect is well suited to subjects for which you want to apply an ethereal, romanticised look"*

Once you see how it works, though, you'll soon figure out how to adapt it to your own needs.

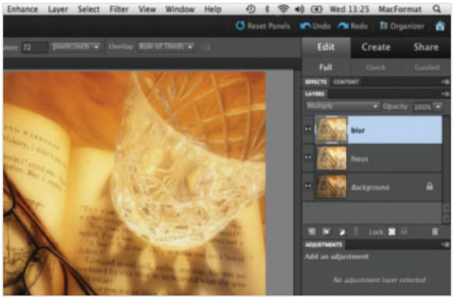
Rod Lawton

HOW TO / Recreate the Orton effect manually


Edit
Create
Share
Create Orton Effect
Add Orton Effect
Increase Blur
Increase Noise

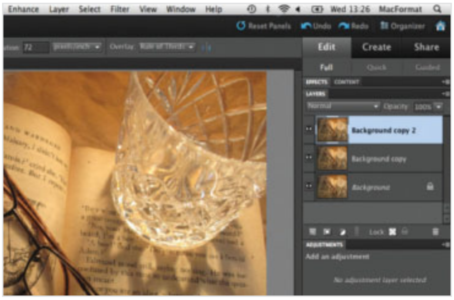
01 Guided Edit version

In **Guided Edit** mode, the **Orton Effect** has three sliders, controlling blur, noise and brightness. The method does tend to make images darker and more contrast-heavy, so the brightness adjustment is valuable. When you're happy, click **Done**.


Edit
Create
Share
LAYERS
Multiply
blur
focus
Background
Add an adjustment
No adjustment layer selected

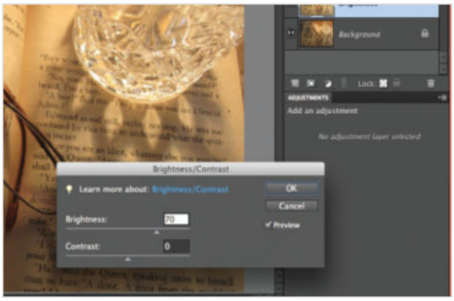
02 How it's done

Swap back to the **Full Edit** mode and you'll see that *Elements* has created two additional layers that generate this **Orton Effect**. The top one does most of the work, applying blur and noise, while the lower 'focus' layer is a brighter version of the original image.


Edit
Create
Share
LAYERS
Normal
Background copy 2
Background copy
Background
Add an adjustment
No adjustment layer selected

03 Duplicate layer

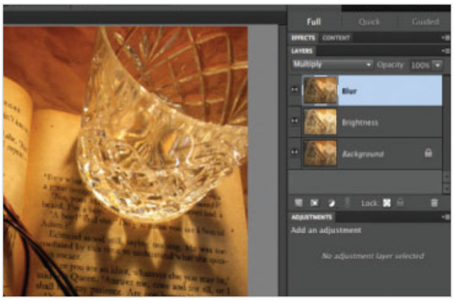
Study these two layers, and you'll see how to do this manually, without the need for *Elements 10's* **Guided Edit**. First, you need to make two duplicates of the original layer: drag its thumbnail onto the new layer button at the bottom of the **Layers** palette. Do it twice.


Background
Add an adjustment
No adjustment layer selected
Brightness/Contrast
Learn more about: Brightness/Contrast
OK
Cancel
Preview

Brightness: 70
Contrast: 0

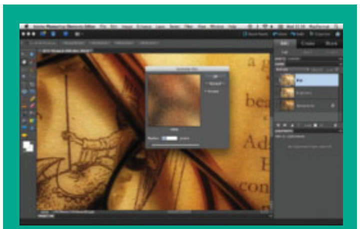
04 The 'Brightness' layer

Now select the first duplicate layer (we'll call it 'Brightness'), use the Enhance > Adjust Lighting > Brightness/Contrast command, and increase the **Brightness** to **70**. This produces the same brightening effect as the 'Focus' layer created by the **Guided Edit** version.


Full
Quick
Guided
LAYERS
Multiply
Blur
Brightness
Background
Add an adjustment
No adjustment layer selected

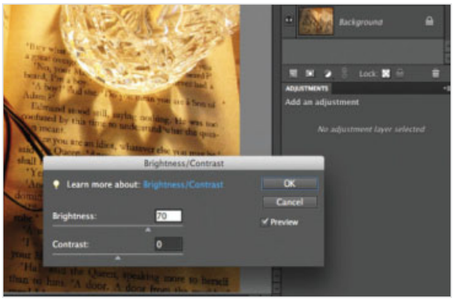
05 The 'Blur' layer

Select the top layer, which we'll call 'Blur', and set the blend mode to **Multiply**. In this mode, the layer darkens the pixels in the layer(s) below. This produces the blurring and noise effect, which the **Orton Effect** is based around. But our image still looks a little dark.



QUICK TIP

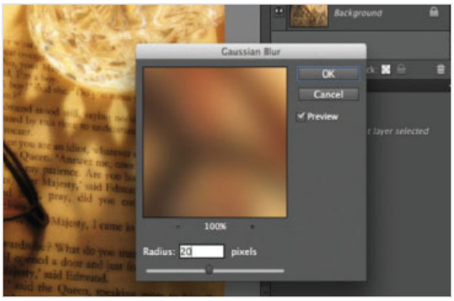
The grain produced by the **Add Noise** filter is hard-edged and pixellated, and looks 'digital'. But if you apply a slight **Gaussian Blur** (0.5 pixels should do it), the grain will become softer and more film-like. It won't affect the definition because it's being applied to the 'Blur' layer, not the image layer itself.


Background
Add an adjustment
No adjustment layer selected
Brightness/Contrast
Learn more about: Brightness/Contrast
OK
Cancel
Preview

Brightness: 70
Contrast: 0

06 Brightness tweaks

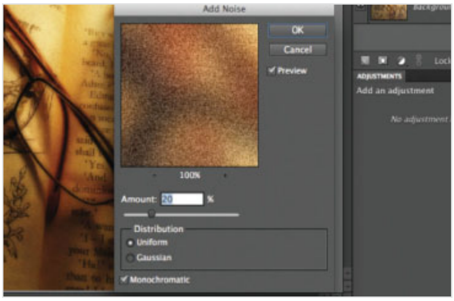
To fix that, apply the same **Brightness/ Contrast** adjustment as for the layer underneath (**Brightness** set to 70%). This comes closest to the default adjustment applied by the **Orton Effect Guided Edit**. You could make it darker or lighter if the image needs it.


Background
Gaussian Blur
OK
Cancel
Preview
100%

Radius: 20 pixels

07 Add the blur

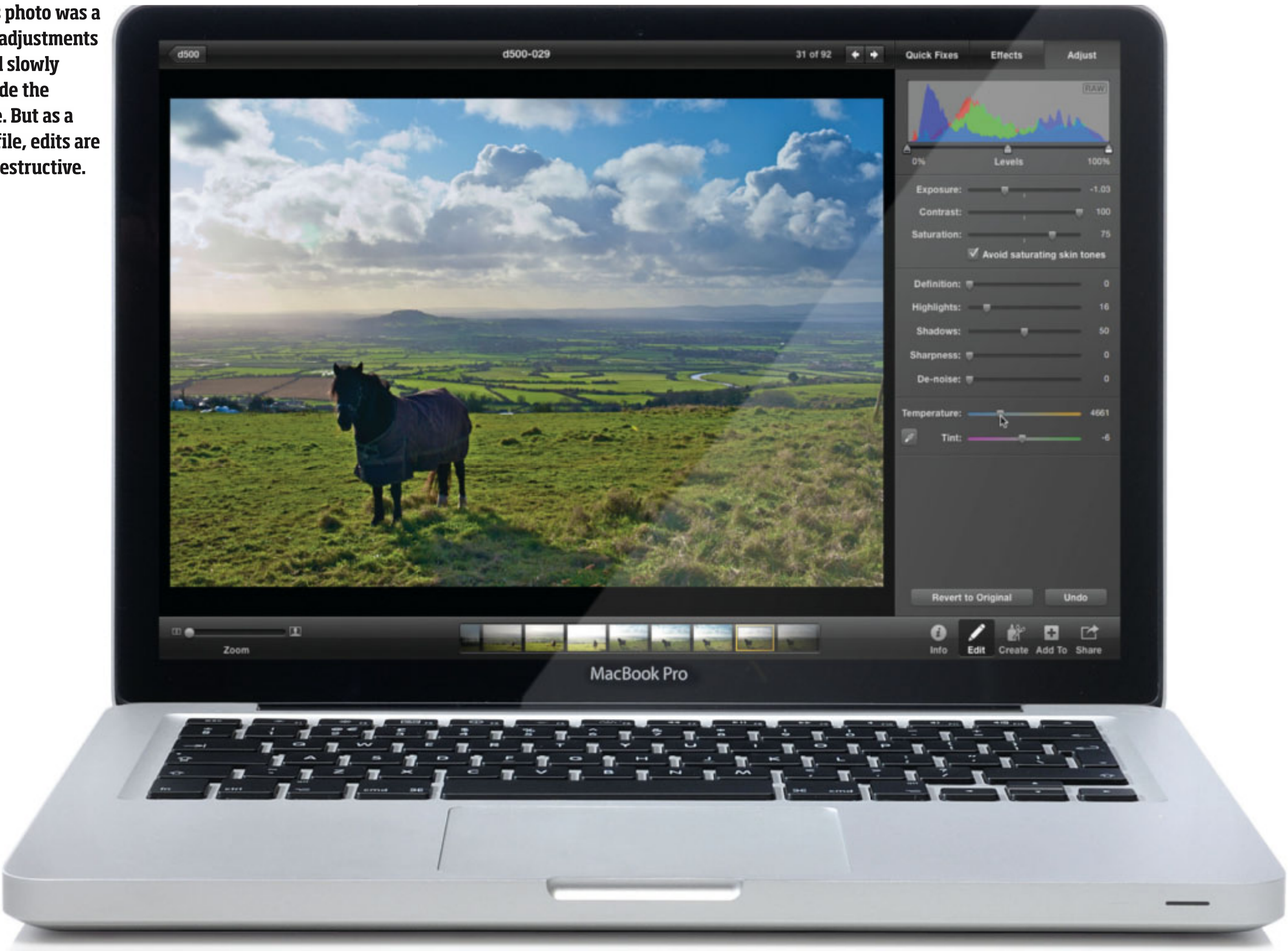
Now apply a **Gaussian Blur** to the top 'Blur' layer. Because it's set to **Multiply** mode, this has the effect of 'spreading' the darker tones into surrounding areas, without covering up existing detail. This is the basis of the **Orton Effect**. A value of 20 pixels is about right.


Add Noise
OK
Cancel
Preview
100%
Add an adjustment
No adjustment

Amount: 20 %
Distribution
○ Uniform
○ Gaussian
✓ Monochromatic

08 Add noise

Adding noise is optional, but it does add a neat ethereal look. This can be applied directly to the top 'Blur' layer, using the **Add Noise filter**. A value of around 20% looks attractive here – make sure you check the **Monochromatic** box to avoid generating coloured pixels. ●



Exposure: -1.03
Contrast: 100
Saturation: 75
☑ Avoid saturating skin tones
Definition: 0
Highlights: 16
Shadows: 50
Sharpness: 0
De-noise: 0
Temperature: 4661
Tint: -6

If this photo was a JPEG, adjustments would slowly degrade the image. But as a RAW file, edits are non-destructive.

Enhance pictures in iPhoto

RAW files offer better quality than JPEGs, and iPhoto can work with them

>> KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Expert

TIME NEEDED
15 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
iPhoto '11

Normally, digital cameras process image data captured by the sensor and save the finished photo as a JPEG file, but RAW files contain the image data in its unprocessed form. You need a program capable of processing these RAW files on your computer, but the advantage is better image quality and the ability to choose some of the settings later rather than having to commit to them when you shoot.

Adobe Photoshop and *Elements* come with the best-known RAW converter, *Adobe Camera Raw*, but *iPhoto* is perfectly capable of processing RAW files too. In fact, it's rather good at it. The tools are much more basic than *Adobe Camera Raw's*, but it generates good definition and colour, and it's especially effective at recovering highlight detail, as we'll see.

Mostly, RAW files are handled in just the same way as JPEGs. You'll see a 'RAW' badge in the corner of the histogram at the top of the **Adjust** panel, and the adjustment tools are the same except for two key differences. The first is that the **Exposure**/**Recovery** slider can pull back data that's disappeared off the right-hand end of the histogram scale. With normal JPEGs, these highlights would be lost for good.

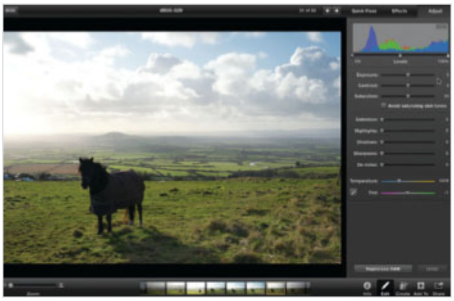
> *"The best-known RAW converter is Adobe Camera Raw, but iPhoto is also rather good at it"*

The second difference lies in the **White Balance** section. With JPEGs, the white balance is set by the camera, which discards leftover colour data; the **Temperature** and **Tint** sliders just apply adjustments to the remaining colours. But RAW files contain the full colour data captured by the sensor. The **Temperature** and **Tint** sliders now show the white balance set on the camera, but you can change this to match the shooting conditions.

It's possible to get much better results from RAW files than JPEGs. Let's look at them in more detail.

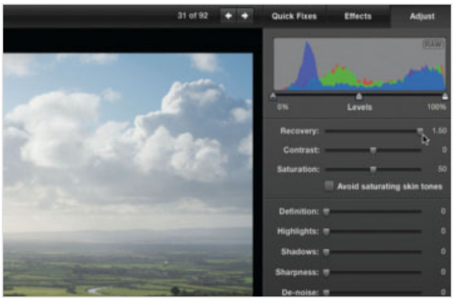
Rod Lawton

HOW TO / Exploit your RAW images



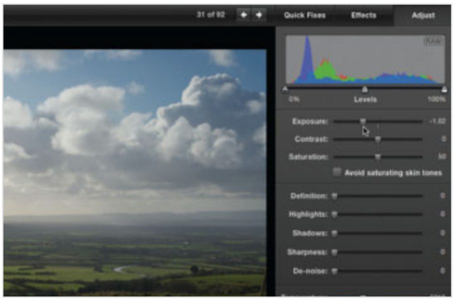
01 Assess image

There's too much contrast in this photo. If you check the histogram at the top-right **Adjust** panel, you'll see that the highlights are badly clipped. This would be disaster in a JPEG image, but RAW files have extra highlight data that you can recover using the tools in *iPhoto*.



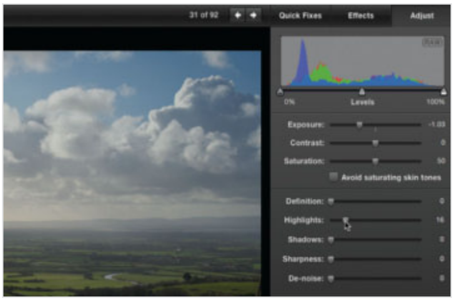
02 Recover highlights

Drag the **Exposure** slider left. This will move the whole histogram to the left to reveal more highlight detail, but it will also darken the image. Instead, hold down the ⌥ key. The **Exposure** slider becomes a **Recovery** slider: drag it to the right for extra highlight detail.



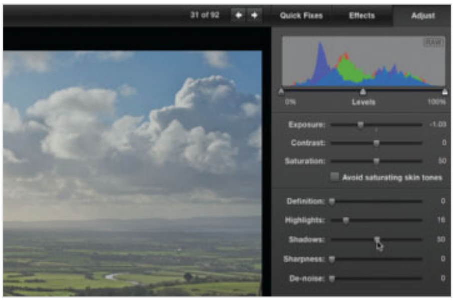
03 Adjust Exposure

It's still not enough to recover all the detail in the sky, but by setting the **Recovery** value to its maximum first, you reduce the amount you need to adjust the **Exposure**. Here, a value of **-1** brings out the clouds in the sky, though it leaves the foreground rather dark.



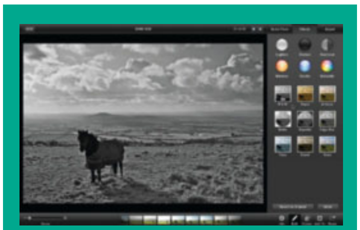
04 Move Highlights slider

You can balance bright and dark areas using the **Highlights** and **Shadows** sliders. First, a small adjustment to the **Highlights** slider darkens the sky still further. This is not the same as highlight recovery – it just darkens the detail that's already there.



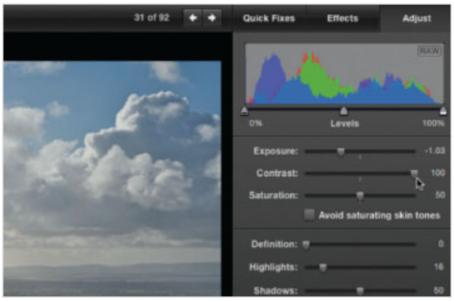
05 Lighten Shadows

It's best not to use too high a **Highlights** setting because it flattens out brighter tones in a way that can quickly look artificial. You can use much larger settings with the **Shadows** slider – this brings out details that were previously too dark to see.



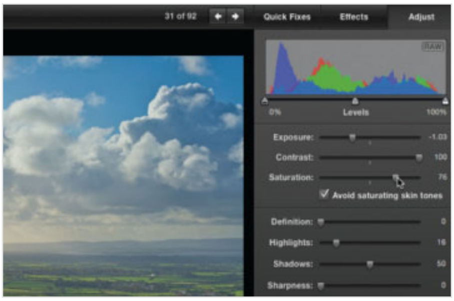
QUICK TIP

There are differences in the exposure and white balance adjustments, but otherwise RAW files can be edited just like JPEGs. You can apply effects, too. Here, the B&W Effect has turned our picture into an effective monochromatic landscape. Don't forget that all these adjustments are non-destructive.



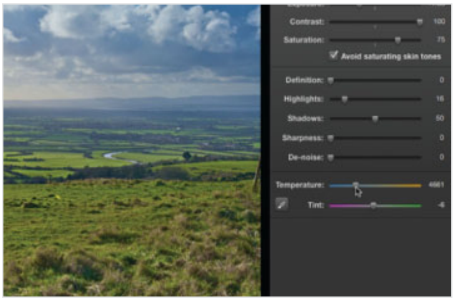
06 Increase Contrast

If your image is looking a bit flat by this stage, increase the **Contrast**. You'll often find this is no time for half measures, and, in this case, it needs to be pushed right up to 100 to produce a worthwhile improvement. The picture now looks a lot better.



07 Increase Saturation

You might need to increase the **Saturation** too, but here you have to be a little more careful because the colours can start to look artificial. If you check the **Avoid saturating skin tones** box first, the saturation increase is applied mostly to the weaker colours.



08 Adjust White Balance

Increasing the saturation will also show up any issues with the white balance. Here, for example, the picture has started to look a little too 'warm', which can be fixed by slightly reducing the **Temperature** and **Tint** values. (RAW allows for more realistic colour shifts.) ●

Manage photos in Aperture

You can neatly stack up your photos within a project or album

>> KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Beginner

TIME NEEDED
25 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
Aperture version 3.2.1 or later, photos in a project, a basic understanding of the interface

Look at *Aperture's* vast collection of adjustment tools and it's obvious how much more powerful it is than its smaller sibling, *iPhoto*. When you consider that most tools can be turned into brushes to apply a change to only one part of a photo, the level of sophistication becomes clear.

But these types of apps are designed to do more than merely improve the look of an image: they are also there to help you organise your growing collection of digital shots. In that respect, the clear difference between *Aperture* and *iPhoto* is that in the former you can group albums, books, web pages, and so on into projects. Think of projects as a sort of improved and expanded event. By contrast, *iPhoto* sorts everything out by type, so that all albums are grouped together; so are any books or slideshows you may have created, irrespective of which event you used to create them. If you have a lot of them, it could end up being difficult finding the one you'd like to work on.

Aperture has another trick up its sleeve when it comes to organising your photos: look at the menu bar and you'll see Stacks.

Stacking is a way of grouping shots without having to create a separate album in order to keep them apart from other photos. You can turn any highlighted photos into a stack, but that organisation will also affect the content of albums within your project. If at least one photo from a stack in your project is present in another album, all the other photos – and the stack that contains them – will then appear in that album. You can collapse the stack to only see the first image (known as your pick) to pare down your images without actually discarding any of them.

> *"We'll show you how you can make the most of stacks, and look at the shortcuts available to you"*

We'll show you how you can make the most of stacks, and look at the available keyboard shortcuts to help you create and manage them: you can reorder photos within stacks, select a new pick, expand and collapse them, split one into multiple stacks, all without ever touching your mouse or trackpad.

If you don't already own a copy of *Aperture*, you can download a free 30-day trial version from www.apple.com/uk/aperture/trial.

Steve Paris

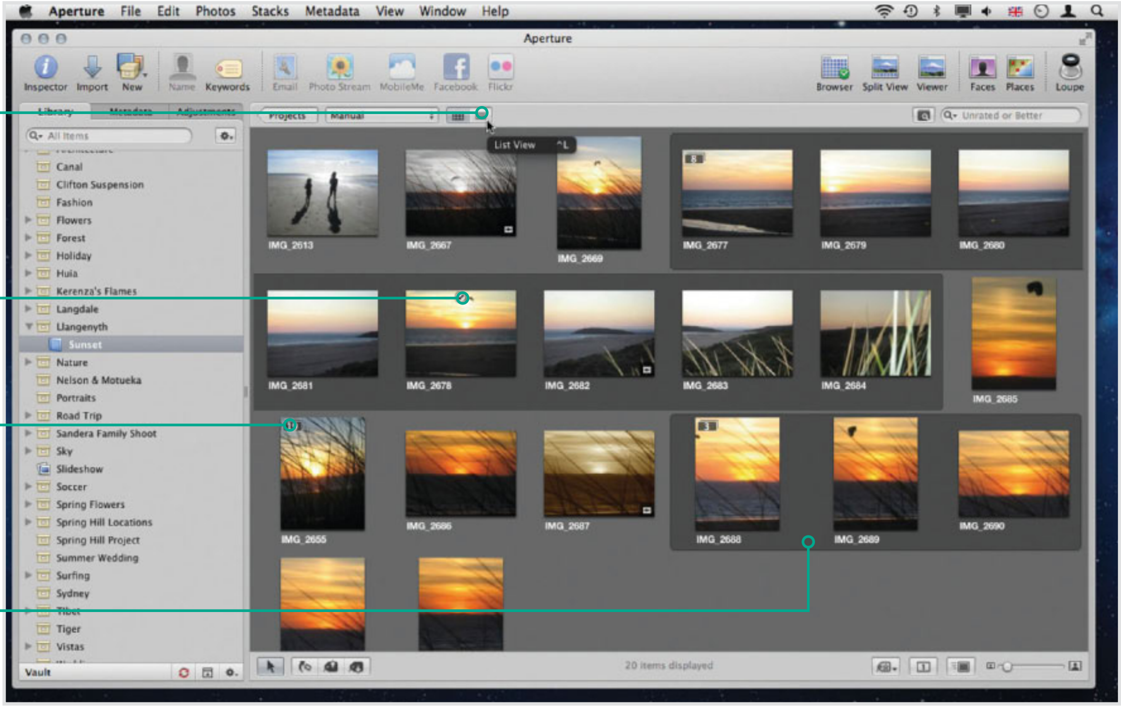
>> HOW TO / Understand stacks' visual cues

Full disclosure
When in **List View**, a stack is shown with a disclosure triangle to expand and collapse it.

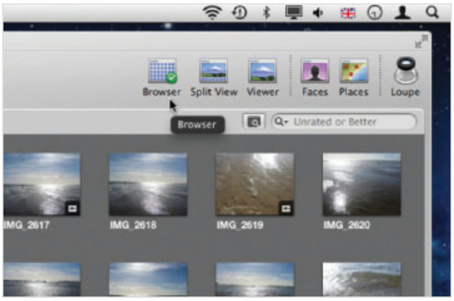
The Pick is ticked
If you've an **Album Pick** for your stack, the picture bears this tick.

How many photos
See how many photos are contained within a stack with this value.

The border effect
Expanded photos within a stack are surrounded by a grey border.

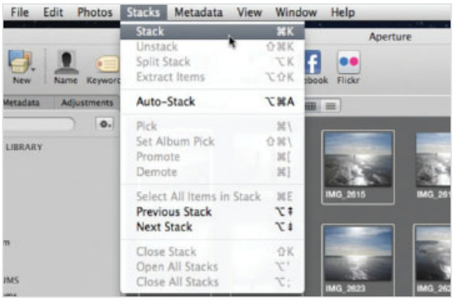

Aperture File Edit Photos Stacks Metadata View Window Help
Aperture
Inspector Import New Name Keywords Email Photo Stream MobileMe Facebook Flickr Browser Split View Viewer Faces Places Loupe
Library Metadata Adjustments
Projects Manual
List View
All Items
Unrated or Better
Canal
Clifton Suspension
Fashion
Flowers
Forest
Holiday
Hula
Kerenza's Flames
Langdale
Llangenyth
Sunset
Nature
Nelson & Motueka
Portraits
Road Trip
Sandera Family Shoot
Sky
Slideshow
Soccer
Spring Flowers
Spring Hill Locations
Spring Hill Project
Summer Wedding
Surfing
Sydney
Tibet
Tiger
Vistas
Vault
IMG_2613
IMG_2667
IMG_2669
IMG_2677
IMG_2679
IMG_2680
IMG_2681
IMG_2678
IMG_2682
IMG_2683
IMG_2684
IMG_2685
IMG_2655
IMG_2686
IMG_2687
IMG_2688
IMG_2689
IMG_2690
20 items displayed

HOW TO / Create and manage stacks


Browser
Split View
Viewer
Faces
Places
Loupe
Browser
Unrated or Better
IMG_2617
IMG_2618
IMG_2619
IMG_2620

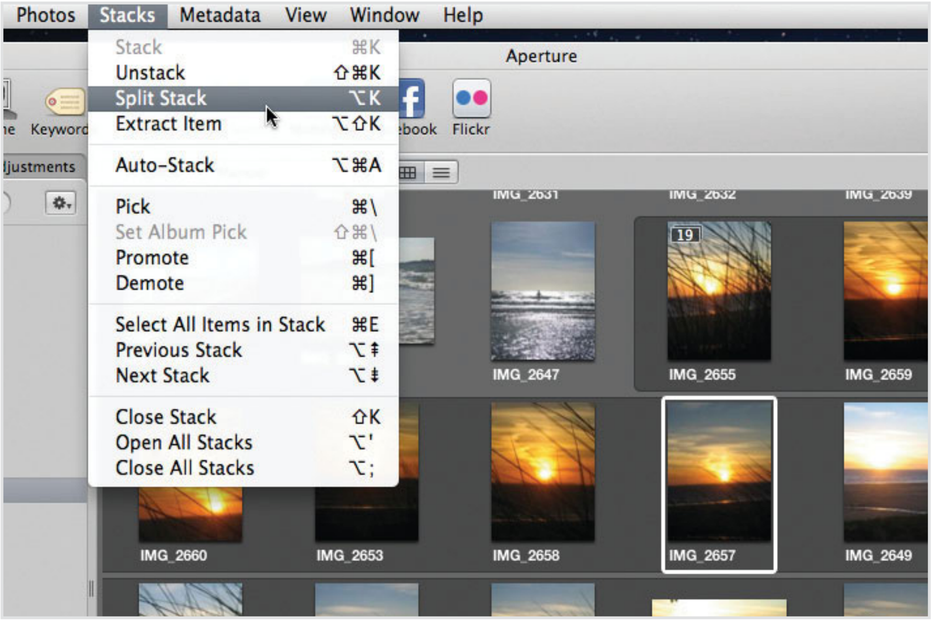
01 Browser view

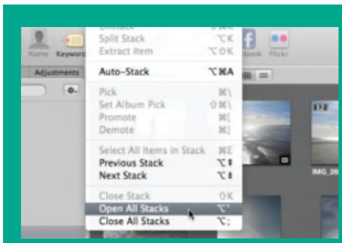
Hit the V key repeatedly until *Aperture* is in Browser view (for example, you don't see any large preview of a selected image). You could also go to View > Browser to achieve the same effect. Navigate along your images using the arrow keys.


File
Edit
Photos
Stacks
Metadata
View
Window
Help
Stack ⌘K
Unstack ⇧⌘K
Split Stack ⌥K
Extract Items ⌥⇧K
Auto-Stack ⌥⌘A
Pick ⌘\
Set Album Pick ⇧⌘\
Promote ⌘[
Demote ⌘]
Select All Items in Stack ⌘E
Previous Stack
Next Stack
Close Stack ⇧K
Open All Stacks ⌥'
Close All Stacks ⌥;
Aperture
LIBRARY
IMG_2615
IMG_2623

02 Your first stack

Select at least six thumbnails. Click the first then shift-click on another to select them, including those in between – or ⌘-click them instead, to only select the photos you've actually clicked on. When ready, use the ⌘+K keyboard shortcut to create your first stack.


Photos
Stacks
Metadata
View
Window
Help
Stack ⌘K
Unstack ⇧⌘K
Split Stack ⌥K
Extract Item ⌥⇧K
Auto-Stack ⌥⌘A
Pick ⌘\
Set Album Pick ⇧⌘\
Promote ⌘[
Demote ⌘]
Select All Items in Stack ⌘E
Previous Stack
Next Stack
Close Stack ⇧K
Open All Stacks ⌥'
Close All Stacks ⌥;
Aperture
Keyword
Flickr
IMG_2647
IMG_2655
IMG_2659
IMG_2660
IMG_2653
IMG_2658
IMG_2657
IMG_2649
19

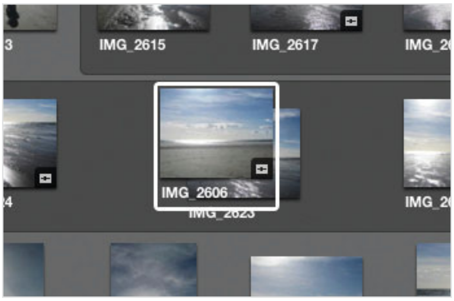

Split Stack
Extract Item
Auto-Stack
Pick
Set Album Pick
Promote
Demote
Select All Items in Stack
Previous Stack
Next Stack
Close Stack
Open All Stacks
Close All Stacks

QUICK TIP

If you're looking for a photo nestled in your project's stacks, opening and closing them one at a time is a tedious affair. Thankfully, you can expand and collapse them in one go by using the ⌥+' or ⌥+; keyboard shortcuts respectively.

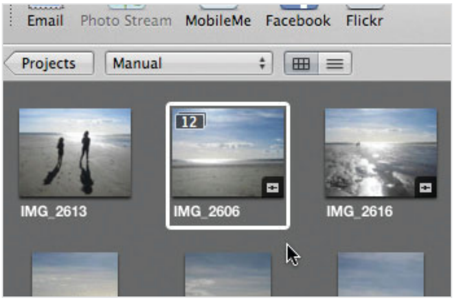
06 Split and unstack

Once you've created your stack, you'll discover how flexible and versatile it can be. You can add more thumbnails into it by dragging them in and then repositioning them to suit your needs. If you find that your current stack would work better as two separate ones, select a shot then hit the ⌥+K shortcut. That shot then becomes the first image of your new stack and all photos to its right are removed from the first stack and join the new one. To combine two stacks together, drag any shot from one of them onto the other and the two will merge. If you don't need a particular stack, you can just as easily break it up: select an image from your stack and use the ⇧+⌘+K shortcut. ●


IMG_2615
IMG_2617
IMG_2606
IMG_2623

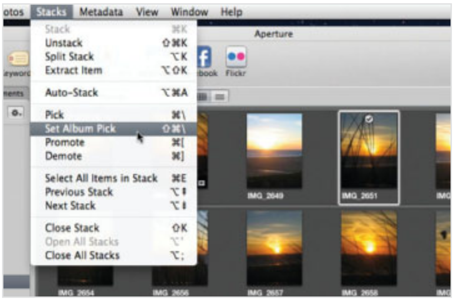
03 Organise your stack

To reorder thumbnails within a stack, drag them to their new position. Alternatively, highlight a photo you'd like to move then use ⌘+[or ⌘+] to move it up or down the list. To remove a shot from the stack, select it and hit ⌥+⇧+K, or drag it out with your mouse.


Email
Photo Stream
MobileMe
Facebook
Flickr
Projects
Manual
12
IMG_2613
IMG_2606
IMG_2616

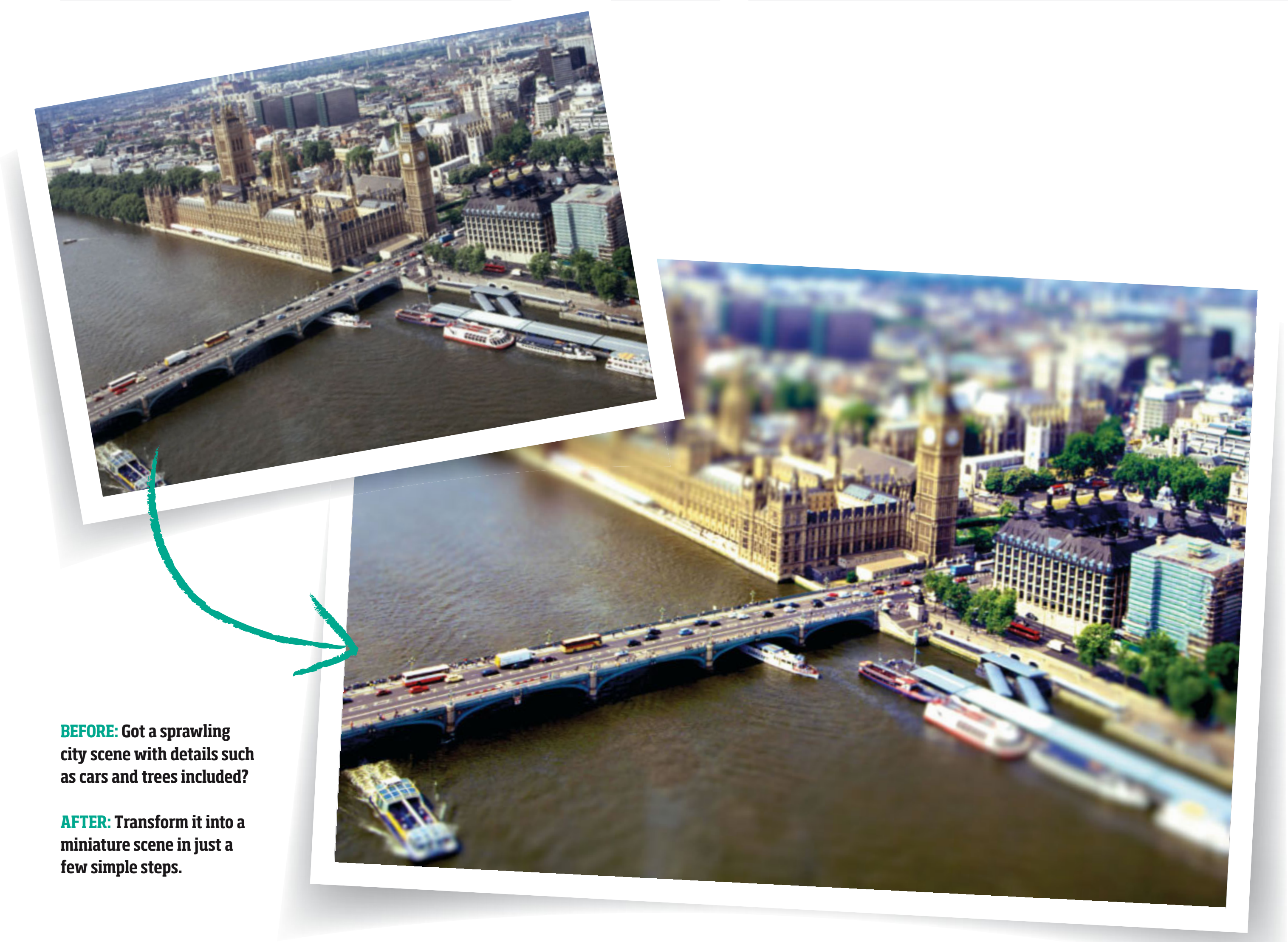
04 Collapse and expand

Want to hide all those photos from view except for the very first one in the list? To do this, make sure one of the images in the stack is selected, then use the ⇧+K keyboard shortcut (or Stacks > Close Stack). To reveal all your shots again, it's the same shortcut.


Stacks
Metadata
View
Window
Help
Stack
Unstack
Split Stack
Extract Item
Auto-Stack
Pick
Set Album Pick
Promote
Demote
Select All Items in Stack
Previous Stack
Next Stack
Close Stack
Open All Stacks
Close All Stacks
Aperture

05 Take your pick

Any photo at the top of your stack will be the one displayed when it's collapsed. To select a different one as your stack's 'pick', use the ⌘+\ shortcut. If you want the same stack in another album to display a different pick, go to Stacks > Set Album Pick instead.



BEFORE: Got a sprawling city scene with details such as cars and trees included?

AFTER: Transform it into a miniature scene in just a few simple steps.

Add depth to your photos

Add focus, fake miniature scenes, and straighten and crop wonky photos

KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Beginner

TIME NEEDED
15 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
Focus (£6.99 on the Mac App Store), OS X 10.6 or later, some photos to work with

One of the criticisms of iOS apps is that rather than a lot of developers creating big apps for a wide range of tasks, you get much smaller products that only really do one thing. However, for us, that's more of an advantage than a negative, because a small app typically provides a degree of focus and makes features accessible to more people. This is definitely the case when it comes to photography: it's far easier for someone to prod the screen a couple of times to make a quick change to an image than be flung headlong into the Photoshops of this world.

In a sense, the Mac App Store has brought this kind of simple, honed app to anyone with a Mac, and we're hugely enjoying the high-quality, affordable and genuinely useful apps that are available for messing around with photographs. *Focus* is our latest love, a stylish app that enables you to add depth to your photos by applying blur effects. Also, in a nod to iOS (and Apple's 'Back to the Mac' thinking with OS X Lion), *Focus* has excellent gesture support.

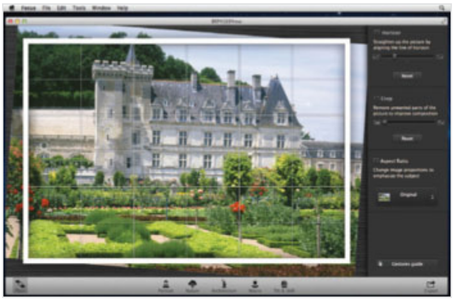
As you'll see in the walkthrough, one of the major benefits of *Focus* is that it gives you a head start through pre-defined effects, each intended for use with specific types of photos: portraits, horizontally oriented landscapes ('Nature'), vertically oriented cityscapes and buildings ('Architecture'), and close-ups ('Macro'). Additionally, there's a tilt-and-shift effect, which provides the means for creating a highly stylised photo that makes the subject matter resemble a miniature scene. It's also possible to tweak effects settings, so you end up with something unique.

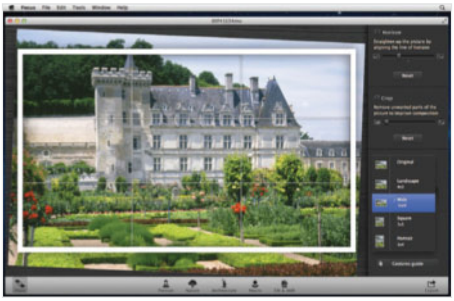
> *"One of the major benefits of Focus is that it gives you a head start through pre-defined effects"*

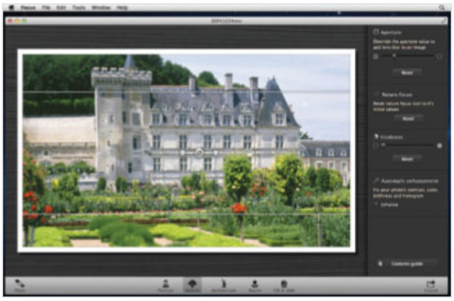
Focus was created by Coppertino (http://coppertino.com) and is available from the Mac App Store, priced £6.99.

Craig Grannell

HOW TO / Fix a photo and add depth







01 Straighten image

In this example, our image is wonky. If you have a photo with similar problems, click **Place**. Drag the **Horizon** slider to straighten the image. The guides within the frame should help you line things up. To restart, click **Reset**.

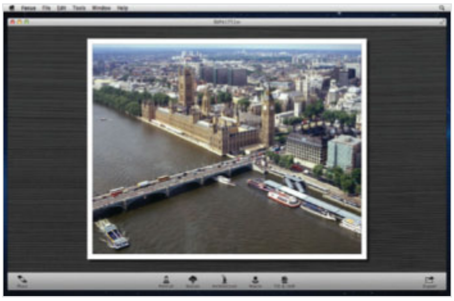
02 Crop photo

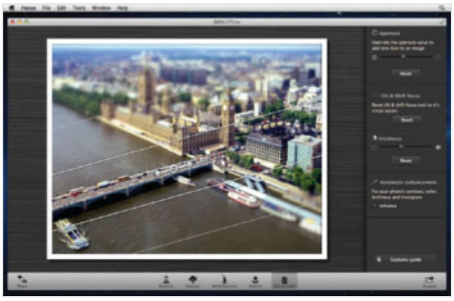
There are two ways to crop. To zoom within the frame, drag the **Crop** slider. If you zoom too much, the image's quality at the same dimensions will suffer. To change the image's proportions, use the **Aspect Ratio** menu.

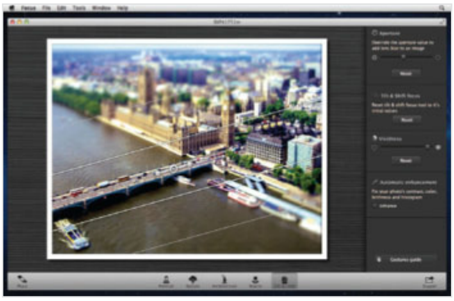
03 Add depth

Select an effect to continue. Since this image is horizontally oriented, we've clicked **Nature**. The effect blurs the foreground along the horizontal axis, focusing the bulk of the building but blurring the garden and roof. ●

HOW TO / Create a faked miniature scene







01 Choose an image

To get good results when creating a faked miniature, you need a certain type of image. It should be balanced, with plenty of depth and distance. City shots can work well, as can photos of motorways or landscapes.

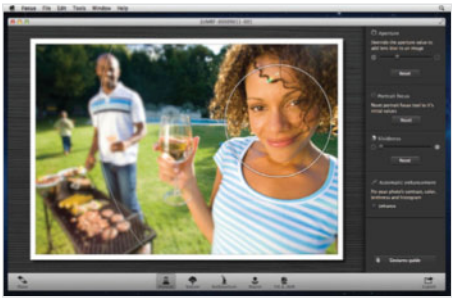
02 Select a filter

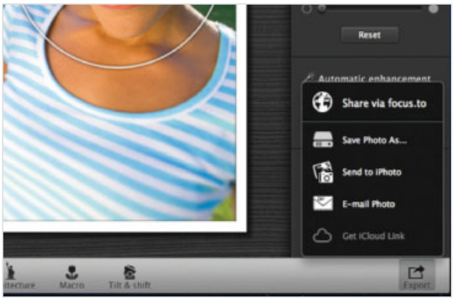
Click **Tilt & Shift**, move your cursor over the image, and drag the controller's focal point where you'd like the focus to be. If you like, use the drag handle to align the effect with a strong angle within the image.

03 Add contrast

Models tend to have brighter colours than their real-life counterparts. To boost the saturation of the colours within your photo, drag the **Vividness** slider to the right. To compare your changes, tap the space bar. ●

HOW TO / Add focus and export





01 Add some focus

Blur effects are often used in portraits to de-emphasise background. We can focus more on the woman in the foreground by clicking **Portrait**. To adjust the position and strength, drag the circle's centre and edges, respectively.

02 Export an image

When done editing, click **Export**. Options exist to send images to *iPhoto* and email, but you can also save your settings to re-edit later. To do so, select **Save Photo As...** and choose **Focus Document** from the **Format** menu. ●

QUICK TIP

As noted in this tutorial's introduction, *Focus* supports gestures for use on a trackpad. To see the full range, go to Help > Gestures Guide. Generally, though, trackpad users can perform rotations with the standard rotate gesture, and resize effects controllers by using pinch and unpinch gestures.

Move your projects around

Video takes up a lot of space – so what do you do if you run out of room?

KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Beginner

TIME NEEDED
25 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
iMovie '11 version 9.0.4 or later, some footage in projects and events, an external hard drive

High-definition video is everywhere. Every modern camcorder records at that resolution and even phones possess amazing lenses, such as the iPhone 4S. This means you're never really without a camera – so you can end up recording even more footage. But there is a downside to this amazing quality: storage. Even the highly compressed videos taken with an iPhone take up more space than you'd think: 30 seconds from an iPhone 4 uses up a little over 40MB, whereas the same length on an iPhone 4S requires around 96MB due to its better resolution. Cameras shooting in AVCHD usually rake up 500MB for the same duration. At that rate, you don't need to take a lot of video before you run out of room.

Thankfully, external storage is readily available, but you can't just expand your *iMovie* collection onto multiple drives. Each event must be on a single drive. If you run out of room, you could create another event on a new drive and carry on from there, but this isn't very elegant and can make it harder to find the shot you want. Thankfully, Apple's engineers have thought of that and it's possible to transfer both your events and your projects onto new drives from within *iMovie*, as we'll show you in this tutorial.

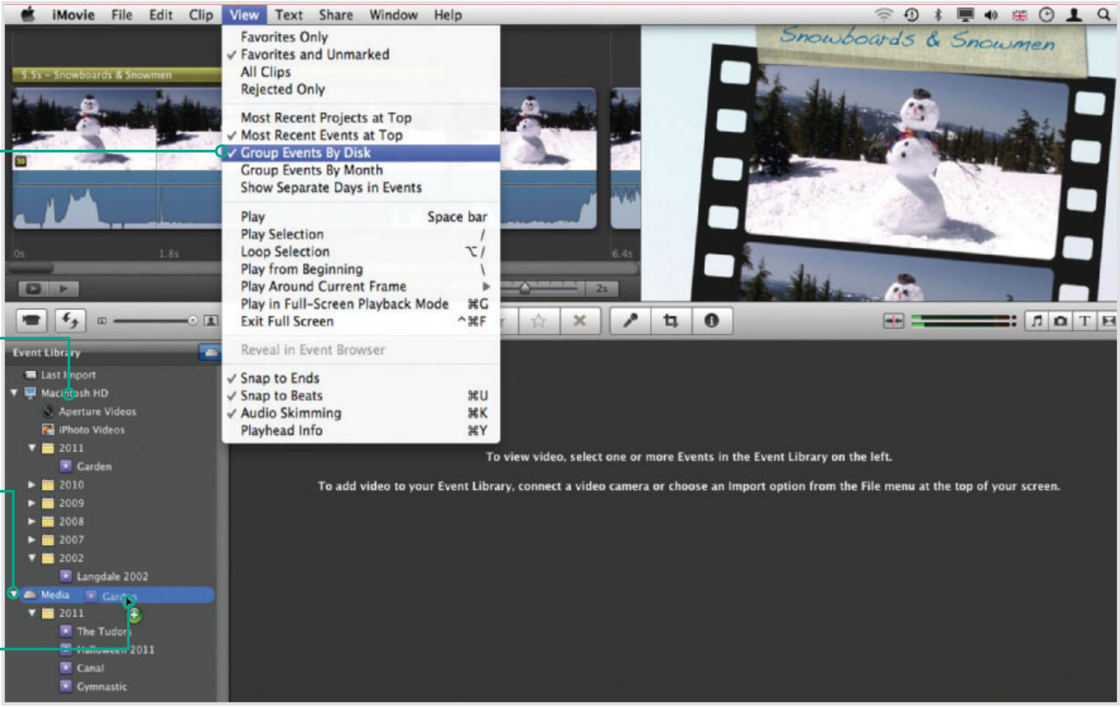
There's also an added advantage to storing your footage on a separate drive: with both your events and projects saved outside of your main computer, you're actually free to edit anywhere. You could start cutting on a MacBook Air for instance, then sit at a more powerful Mac to work on the final touches. Alternatively, you could take your external drive with you and connect to your friend's Mac to show them your progress.

> *"You have more freedom working with media when your files aren't locked into a single computer"*

You definitely have a lot more freedom when working with external media when your files aren't locked into a single computer. If you decide to go down that path, there's just one matter you need to be aware of: any music or photos you add to your project would usually come from either *iTunes* or *iPhoto*. Instead, you'll have to add a copy of the relevant file to your external drive and drag them onto your project from there, in order to not be faced with missing media when you do connect to another Mac.

Steve Paris

QUICK LOOK / Media managing in iMovie


iMovie
File
Edit
Clip
View
Text
Share
Window
Help
Favorites Only
✓ Favorites and Unmarked
All Clips
Rejected Only
Most Recent Projects at Top
✓ Most Recent Events at Top
✓ Group Events By Disk
Group Events By Month
Show Separate Days in Events
Play Space bar
Play Selection /
Loop Selection ⌥/
Play from Beginning \
Play Around Current Frame
Play in Full-Screen Playback Mode ⌘G
Exit Full Screen ^⌘F
Reveal in Event Browser
✓ Snap to Ends
✓ Snap to Beats ⌘U
✓ Audio Skimming ⌘K
Playhead Info ⌘Y
5.5s – Snowboards & Snowmen
Snowboards & Snowmen
Event Library
Last Import
Macintosh HD
Aperture Videos
iPhoto Videos
2011
Garden
2010
2009
2008
2007
2002
Langdale 2002
Media
Garden
2011
The Tudors
Halloween 2011
Canal
Gymnastic

To view video, select one or more Events in the Event Library on the left.

To add video to your Event Library, connect a video camera or choose an Import option from the File menu at the top of your screen.

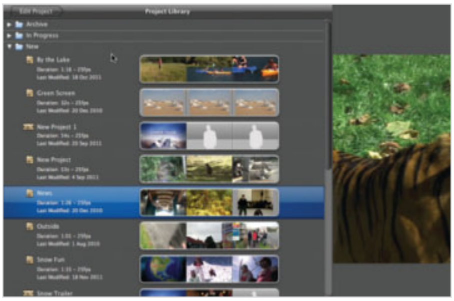
The menu bar
To group your events by the drives they're stored in, select this from the **View** menu.

Drive display
Each drive appears here and events are listed alphabetically.

Disclosure
Click the triangle to hide or reveal that drive's stored events.

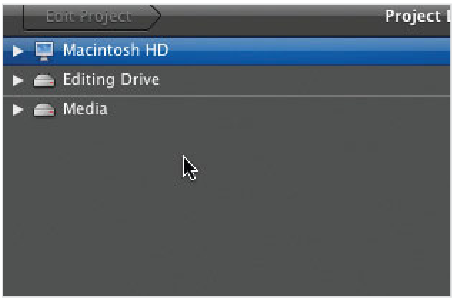
Drag and drop
To copy an event, drag it from its location to the new drive.

HOW TO / Move projects to another drive



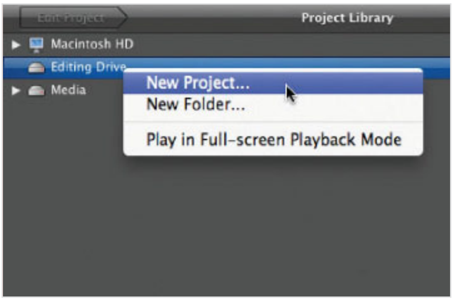
01 The Projects Library

When you launch *iMovie*, you'll see your events at the bottom and the currently selected project, upper left. To view all your projects, click on the **Projects Library** button, top-left of the interface. You'll then see all your projects stored on your Mac, listed alphabetically.


Edit Project
Project L
Macintosh HD
Editing Drive
Media

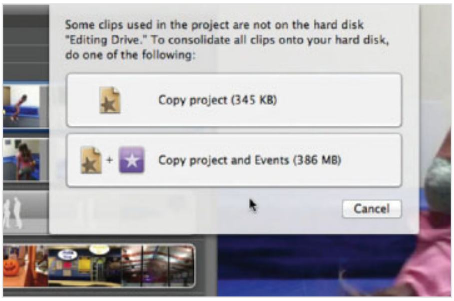
02 Another drive

Connect an external drive to your Mac. You'll notice a subtle change in the **Projects Library**: projects are now stored under your hard drive's name (by default, it's 'Macintosh HD') and your external drive appears beneath even if it doesn't contain any *iMovie* projects.


Edit Project
Project Library
Macintosh HD
Editing Drive
Media
New Project...
New Folder...
Play in Full-screen Playback Mode

03 From scratch

If you wanted to create a project from scratch straight onto this new drive, going to File > New Project won't work as it will automatically add it on your Mac's main drive. Instead, ctrl-click on the drive's name in the **Project Library** and choose **New Project**.

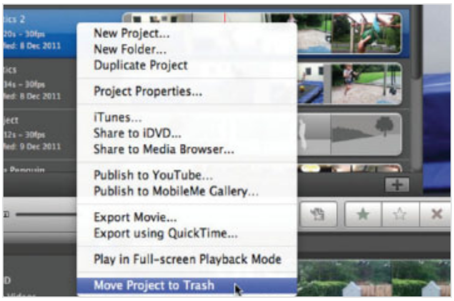


Some clips used in the project are not on the hard disk "Editing Drive." To consolidate all clips onto your hard disk, do one of the following:

Copy project (345 KB)
Copy project and Events (386 MB)
Cancel

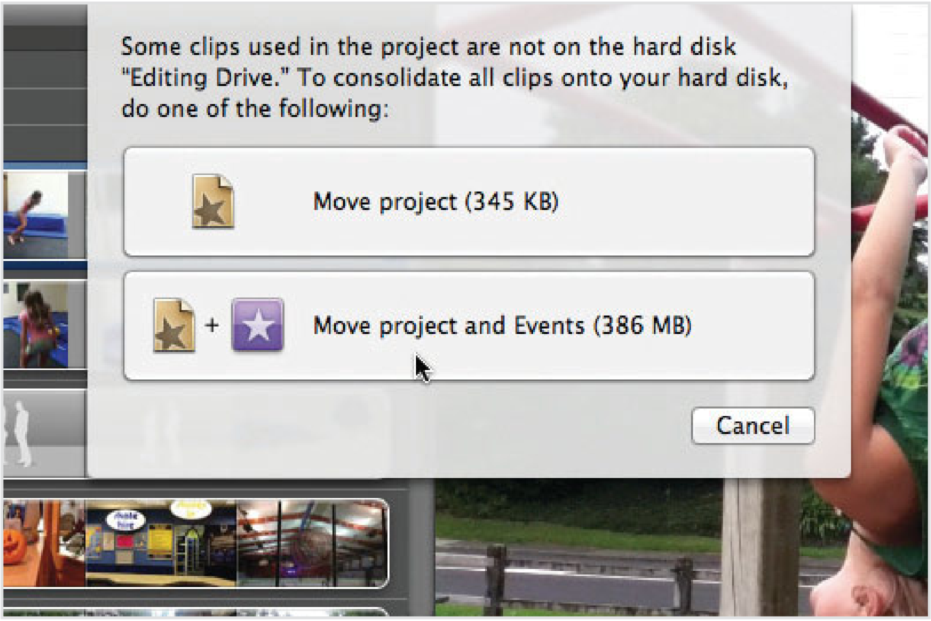
04 Drag and drop

Copying a project from one drive to another is simple: drag it in the **Project Library** and drop it over the new drive. The process isn't instant because you'll be asked if you wish to copy just the project or if you'd like to include the event it's linked to as well.


New Project...
New Folder...
Duplicate Project
Project Properties...
iTunes...
Share to iDVD...
Share to Media Browser...
Publish to YouTube...
Publish to MobileMe Gallery...
Export Movie...
Export using QuickTime...
Play in Full-screen Playback Mode
Move Project to Trash

05 Deleting projects

Choose to merely copy the project for now and you'll end up with a perfect copy on the second drive. If your intention was to move the project over, you now have to delete the original. To do this, select it from the list and go to File > Move Project to Trash.

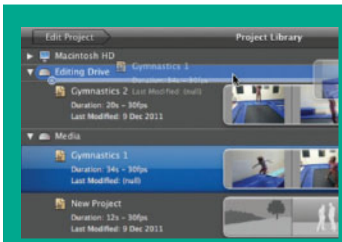


Some clips used in the project are not on the hard disk "Editing Drive." To consolidate all clips onto your hard disk, do one of the following:

Move project (345 KB)
Move project and Events (386 MB)
Cancel

06 An elegant solution

This is a little inconvenient, not to mention time consuming. But there is a better way. If you've just deleted your project, go to Edit > Undo Delete Project and get rid of the copy on the second drive. This time, hold down the ⌘ key as you drag your project over to its new location. The options given are now **Move project** or **Move project and events**. Select the latter and both your project and all events it's drawn its clips from will move to the new drive, freeing space on your original location. Once it's done, the clips will have been removed from your Mac – but your project will be unaffected and all the clips you've used will still be properly linked to the right media. ●


Edit Project
Project Library
Macintosh HD
Editing Drive
Gymnastics 2
Media
Gymnastics 1
New Project

QUICK TIP

iMovie is clever enough to realise when an event you've moved was also used by another project, and connects it properly to the clips in the new location; if you later move that project to the new drive, it will do it automatically.

Create letterpress art

Using LetterMpress, you can create retro typographic collages in no time

KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Beginner

TIME NEEDED
10 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
LetterMpress (£6.99 from the Mac App Store)

Letterpress printing has seen something of a revival in recent times. Invented in the mid-15th century by Johannes Gutenberg, letterpress is a way of printing type using a printing press and movable blocks of type (and today, other, more decorative elements). Many modern creative professionals love the tradition and craft of letterpress printing. They also enjoy the highly stylised, texturised feel of the results you get from using single colour inks (spot colours) and thick paper stock.

But letterpress printing isn't exactly accessible. You need to have a press, specialist equipment and a certain amount of know-how to get results. If you want to experiment with the style of letterpress without the expense or getting your hands dirty, then *LetterMpress*, an inexpensive £6.99 on the Mac App Store, is a great app to have at your disposal. What's more, it's great fun to use and gives you a feel for the tradition of the printing technique, offers easy navigation and produces great results.

The app can be a little tricky to start with, especially if you have no experience of this kind of printing in the real-world. But once you start experimenting you can soon come away with some very interesting results. The first thing to do before you start creating any artwork is pay a visit to the settings – the little cog at the bottom of the interface.

> *"LetterMpress lets you experiment with the style of letterpress without getting your hands dirty"*

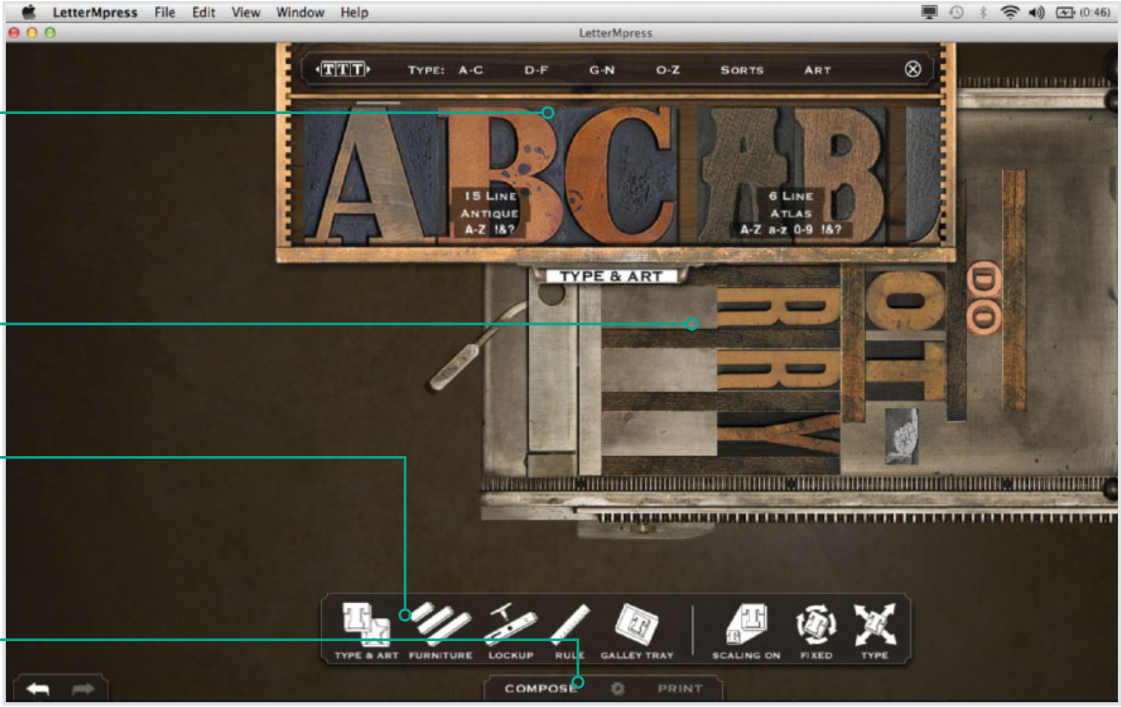
From the settings, make sure you choose **Child's Play** as the **Type Composition** option. This makes it much easier to compose your artwork. Also, change the page size to your requirements and ramp up the output resolution to 8,192 pixels (just in case you want to print it later). That's all you need to worry about before you begin.

Once you've set everything up, you're ready to go. It's worth bearing in mind that this app is also available on the iPad – so if you want to create this kind of artwork on the move, you can. It works exactly the same across both platforms, but of course you have to buy it twice.

Enough of the options and preamble, let's get printing. We'll create a quick piece of art, rather like the 'Keep Calm and Carry On' poster that's very popular right now.

Rob Carney

QUICK LOOK / The LetterMpress interface



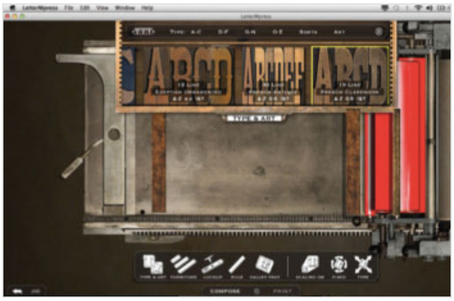
Type/Art drawer
Use this to select and drag to your project typefaces and other decorative elements.

Plate
Assemble woodblocks here. Double-click them to lift them off the plate.

Options in Compose mode
Access elements to compose your print.

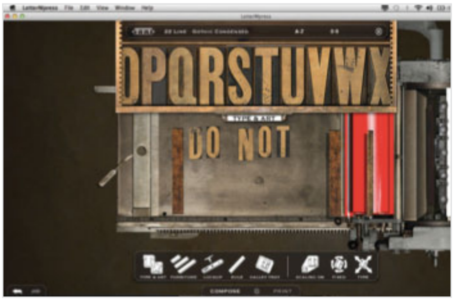
Compose/Print
Switch between Compose and Print mode via the buttons.

HOW TO / Create Letterpress art with LetterMpress



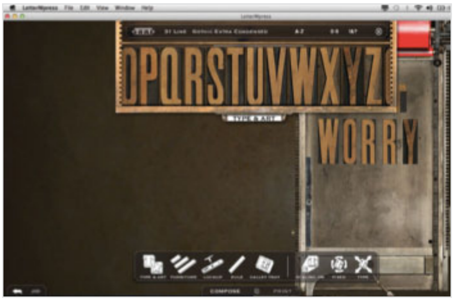
01 Compose

First up, hit the **Compose mode** button at the bottom of the interface. Now hit the **Type & Art** button. A drawer opens. Click the 'Ts' at the top-right of the drawer and choose a typeface you want to start with by dragging left and right. Double-click a font to use it.



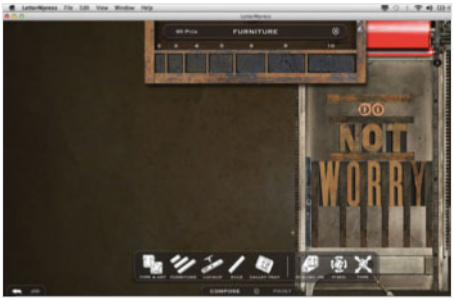
02 Letter sizing

To change letter size, click and drag the 'LINE' text above your selected typeface. Woodtype is measured in lines – one line being one sixth of an inch. Change the size and drag the letters onto the plate. If it's not the right size, triple-click the letter to remove it.



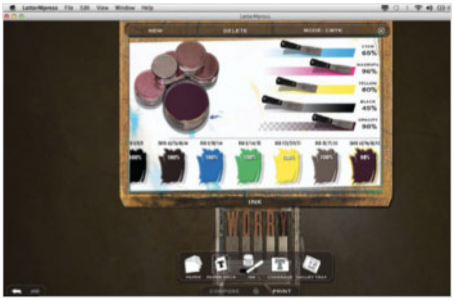
03 Orientation & addition

To create a portrait piece rather than a landscape, go to View > Rotate Right. You'll notice the letters don't rotate; to make them, hold down ⌘ and click them. Continue adding more letters until you have your type (in this case a phrase we've made up) in place.



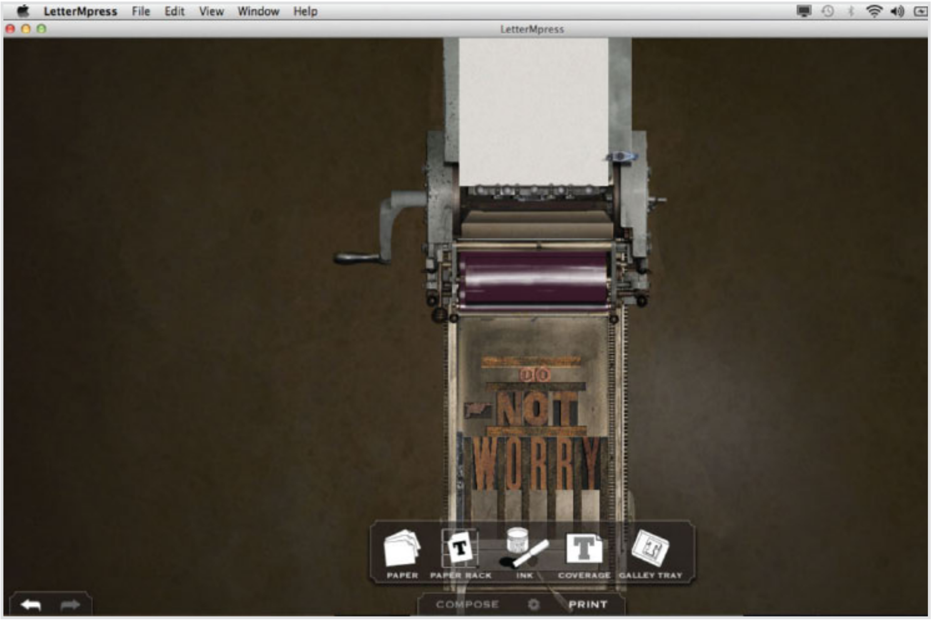
04 Spacing

With everything lined up how you want it, click the **Furniture** button. Furniture consists of non-printing objects that enable you to space your type and printing elements. Drag blocks onto the plate. When you double-click the blocks they are lowered onto the plate.



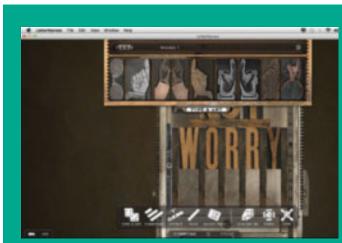
05 Ink

Switch to **Print** mode and hit **Paper**. Select one you want to print on by double-clicking it. Next, go to **Ink**. Choose a colour. To use multiple colours, see step 6. To choose a colour, drag a palette knife or select a swatch. Use the **Coverage** button to select ink thickness.



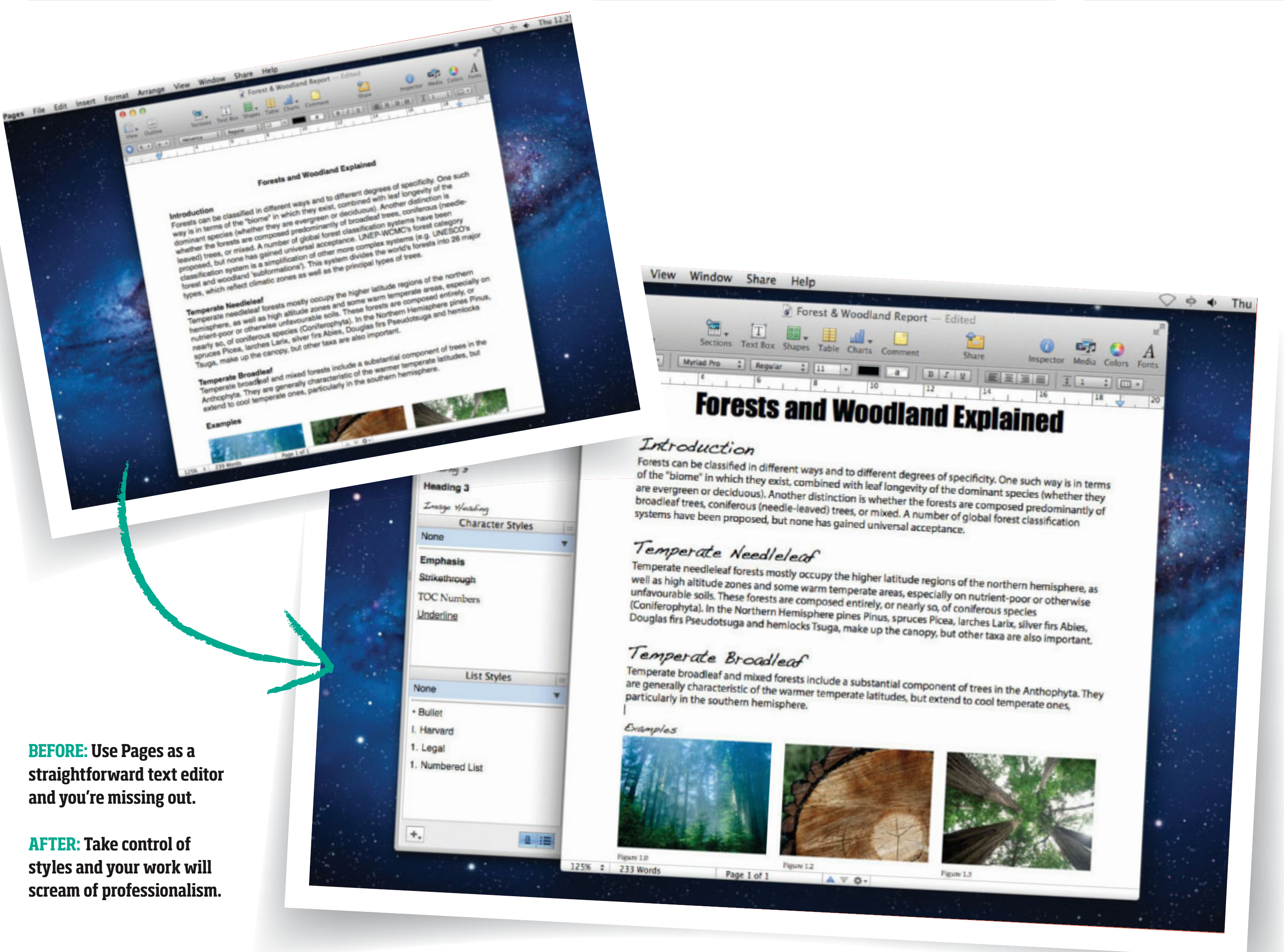
06 Printing

Drag down the handle on the press to print your poster. You can choose to either keep or reject the print (so you can go back and change colour/edit and so on). If you want to print different colours on different words, you need to run your paper through the press a few times – set up different words and then use the **Galley Tray** to save your woodblocks. After printing one part and keeping the print, it appears in your paper tray. Now load the paper back onto the press before selecting your next set of woodblocks from the **Galley Tray** and printing again. Use other objects to create a background pattern, before printing over the top with light coverage for an overprinted feel. ●



QUICK TIP

There's a huge range of objects and decorative elements in the **Type and Art** tray, so you can create greetings cards and so on without getting your hands dirty. Use the objects in conjunction with the Galley Tray for some great effects.


Pages File Edit Insert Format Arrange View Window Share Help
Forest & Woodland Report — Edited
Sections
Text Box
Shapes
Table
Charts
Comment
Share
Inspector
Media
Colors
Fonts
Myriad Pro
Regular
11
Heading 3
Image Heading
Character Styles
None
Emphasis
Strikethrough
TOC Numbers
Underline
List Styles
None
• Bullet
I. Harvard
1. Legal
1. Numbered List
125%
233 Words
Page 1 of 1
Figure 1.0
Figure 1.2
Figure 1.3

Forests and Woodland Explained

Introduction

Forests can be classified in different ways and to different degrees of specificity. One such way is in terms of the "biome" in which they exist, combined with leaf longevity of the dominant species (whether they are evergreen or deciduous). Another distinction is whether the forests are composed predominantly of broadleaf trees, coniferous (needle-leaved) trees, or mixed. A number of global forest classification systems have been proposed, but none has gained universal acceptance.

Temperate Needleleaf

Temperate needleleaf forests mostly occupy the higher latitude regions of the northern hemisphere, as well as high altitude zones and some warm temperate areas, especially on nutrient-poor or otherwise unfavourable soils. These forests are composed entirely, or nearly so, of coniferous species (Coniferophyta). In the Northern Hemisphere pines Pinus, spruces Picea, larches Larix, silver firs Abies, Douglas firs Pseudotsuga and hemlocks Tsuga, make up the canopy, but other taxa are also important.

Temperate Broadleaf

Temperate broadleaf and mixed forests include a substantial component of trees in the Anthophyta. They are generally characteristic of the warmer temperate latitudes, but extend to cool temperate ones, particularly in the southern hemisphere.

Examples

BEFORE: Use Pages as a straightforward text editor and you're missing out.

AFTER: Take control of styles and your work will scream of professionalism.

Create paragraph styles

Give your Pages documents some professional polish with styles

>> KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Beginner

TIME NEEDED
20 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
iWork '09

When you write a document in *Pages*, do you tend to use formatting like bold, italics and font size to denote specific sections? If so, you're not making the most of this excellent word processing package.

Rather than simply increase the font size and make the text bold each time you create a heading, why not make use of styles in *Pages*? This handy little drawer, which slides out from the side of the interface, is the easiest way to not only apply styles to your projects, but also keep them uniform. This ensures that all of your headings and titles look the same throughout your text, thereby avoiding distracting switches in the aesthetic of your work.

Every document in *Pages* has a set of defined styles, from the basics in a blank document, through to more detailed styles found within the beautiful *Pages* templates, available from the Template Chooser.

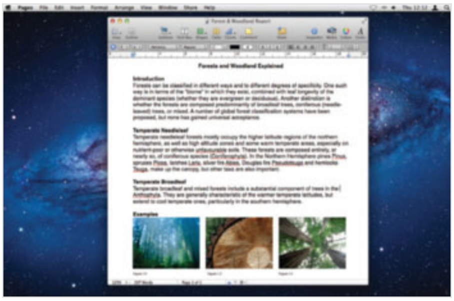
For the purposes of this tutorial, we'll be assuming that you have no formatting applied to your document or that you are starting a document from scratch. In our example we'll be using a report document that uses standard body text with headings and titles in a bold typeface. By using the Styles Drawer we'll then apply new styles and show you how you can quickly adjust them and create new styles if need be.

> *"The Style Drawer is the easiest way to not only apply styles, but also keep them uniform in your work"*

Once you've mastered these techniques, you'll be able to turn any boring text document into a professional piece of work. It will also be adjustable at any time to suit your needs, simply by heading back to the Styles Drawer and making changes. Using styles can help you enhance almost any text document, from a school report to a business proposal, to produce a polished final product. Let's take a look at how to achieve this in eight simple steps.

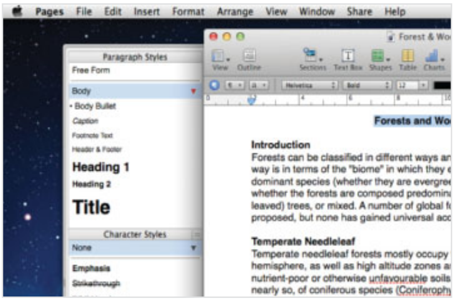
Ben Harvell

HOW TO / Add and create styles with Pages



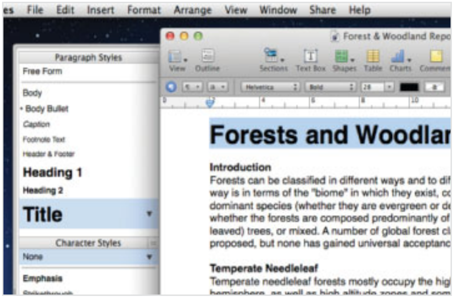
01 New document

Start by launching *Pages* and selecting the blank word processing template from the **Template Chooser** to start a new word processing project. Alternatively, you can load any text document you may have already created, as we have with our report document.


Paragraph Styles
Free Form
Body
Body Bullet
Caption
Footnote Text
Header & Footer
Heading 1
Heading 2
Title
Character Styles
None
Emphasis
Strikethrough

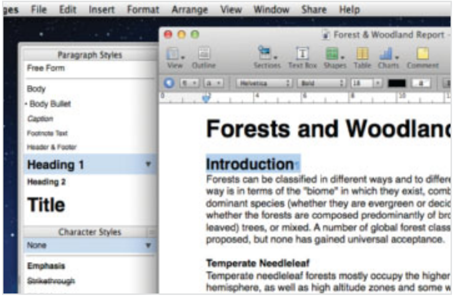
02 The Styles Drawer

To show the **Styles Drawer**, click on the circular, blue button at the top-left of the interface just below the **View** and **Outline** buttons. All the styles in your current document will now be listed in the **Styles Drawer**, which will slide out to the side of the interface.



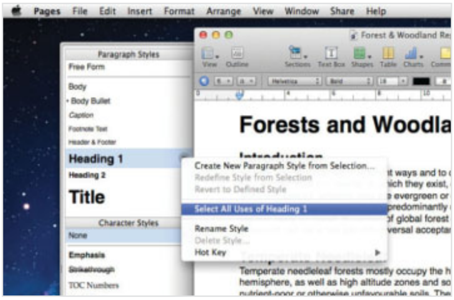
03 Changing style

Highlight the title text of the document and click on the **Title** style from the **Styles Drawer**. The title you selected will now have the **Title** style applied to it. Don't worry about the way it looks, we'll show you how to adjust the default styles over the next few steps.



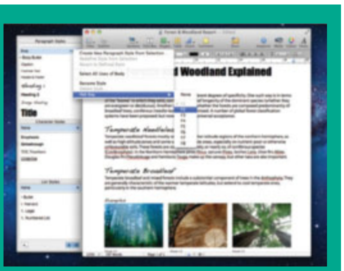
04 Add headings

Now select the first heading in your document and click on the **Heading 1** style in the **Styles Drawer**. The heading text will now have the heading style applied to it. Do the same for any other headings in your document until all heading text uses this style.


Create New Paragraph Style from Selection...
Redefine Style from Selection
Revert to Defined Style
Select All Uses of Heading 1
Rename Style
Delete Style...
Hot Key

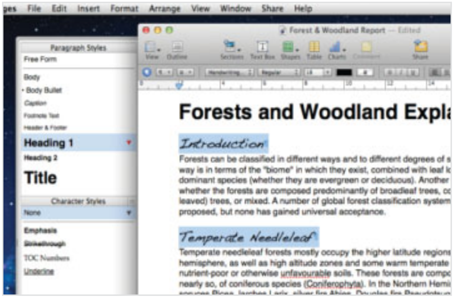
05 Multiple selection

To quickly select all instances of a style in your document, click on it in the **Styles Drawer** then click the downward-pointing arrow next to it. Click the **Select All Uses of...** option from the drop-down menu that appears. Here we've selected all uses of **Heading 1**.



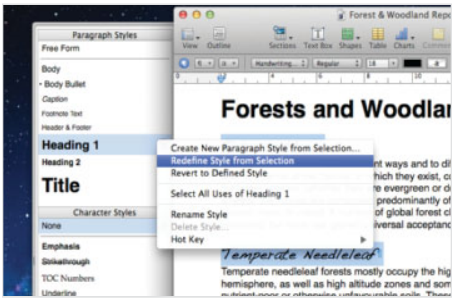
QUICK TIP

To quickly apply styles to text, you can set keyboard shortcuts for individual styles. Click on the downward-pointing arrow next to any style in the **Styles Drawer**, and hover the cursor over the **Hot Key** option on the drop-down menu.



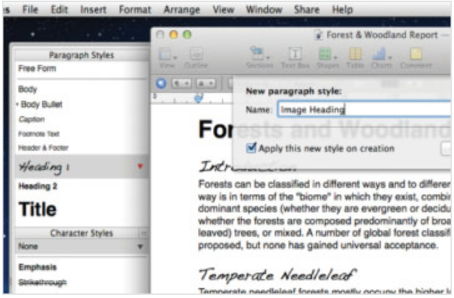
06 Customising styles

With all instances of a particular style selected, you can change the look by adjusting the font type and size from the **Format** bar. Changes will be applied to all instances of this style and the arrow next to the style name in the **Styles Drawer** will turn red.


Create New Paragraph Style from Selection...
Redefine Style from Selection
Revert to Defined Style
Select All Uses of Heading 1
Rename Style
Delete Style...
Hot Key

07 Saving styles

Click on the downward-pointing arrow next to your style that turned red. From the drop-down menu that appears, select **Redefine Style from Selection** to make this the default format for that style. You can continue to make changes to any other styles you are using.


New paragraph style:
Name: Image Heading
Apply this new style on creation

08 Create new styles

To create a new style, add text to your document and apply the font type and size as well as any other settings. Click the downward-pointing arrow next to the highlighted style in the **Styles Drawer** and click **Create New Paragraph Style from Selection** to name it. ●

Sales Figures
2010-2011

Marco's
Coffee House
Est. 1976

100
75
50
25
0
Cakes
Soft Drinks
Tea
Coffee
MacBook Pro

iWork's Keynote can transition between charts in smooth style.

Animate Keynote charts

Show the change between two charts in a more attractive way

»KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Intermediate

TIME NEEDED
30 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
iWork '09

Keynote allows you to bring your presentations to life with amazing effects and rich templates, and even caters for beautiful 3D charts on your slides. While there is the option to animate charts one bar at a time, there's no simple option to show a change from one set of figures to another.

For example, if you have one chart for sales figures in 2010 and another for those in 2011, how do you smoothly shift between two charts rather than just jump between slides? That's what this tutorial will show you how to do. But rather than move between two charts on two different slides, we'll show you how to create a cross-dissolve effect that gives the illusion of the original chart's figures changing on the same slide. It's not as complex a process as it sounds; it uses *Keynote*'s Build tools to fade out the original chart and build in the second, so that it appears that the bars on the chart are growing.

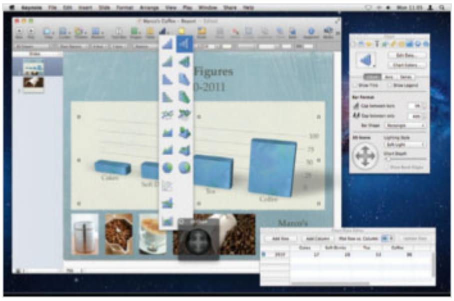
In order to use this specific technique, you will need to use a 3D chart rather than a 2D style, simply for the reason that there are more transition options available for them.

> *"How do you smoothly shift between two charts rather than just jump between slides? We'll show you how"*

Using this technique will make it easier for your presentation viewers to understand what's going on as you share your figures. It will also make your presentation run more smoothly, rather than using a slide change to produce the effect. You can use the technique as many times as you wish in a presentation to show a large number of changes, such as sales figure shifts over different years – as we show here.

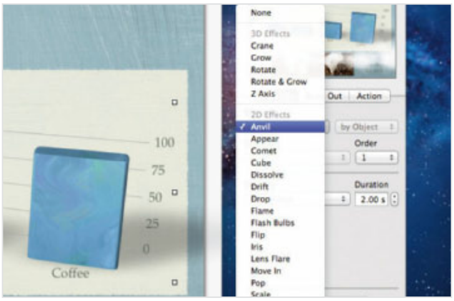
You can follow this tutorial using an existing presentation you may already have created, or start one from scratch. All you need are your two sets of figures for the charts and you're good to go. So here's how to smoothly transition between charts! **Ben Harvell**

HOW TO / Smoothly transition between two Keynote charts



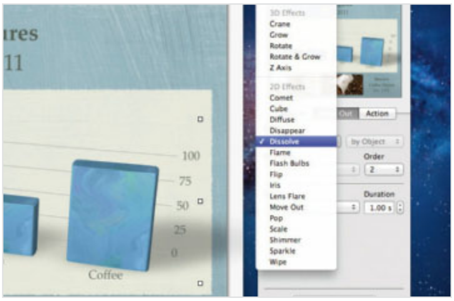
01 Add a chart

Start by launching a new or existing *Keynote* project and add a chart from the **Charts** menu. Make sure you choose one of the 3D options from the right of the menu, and enter your data into the **Chart Data Editor** that appears to show your first set of figures.


None
3D Effects
Crane
Grow
Rotate
Rotate & Grow
Z Axis
2D Effects
Anvil
Appear
Comet
Cube
Dissolve
Drift
Drop
Flame
Flash Bulbs
Flip
Iris
Lens Flare
Move In
Pop
Out
Action
by Object
Order
1
Duration
2.00 s
100
75
50
25
0
Coffee

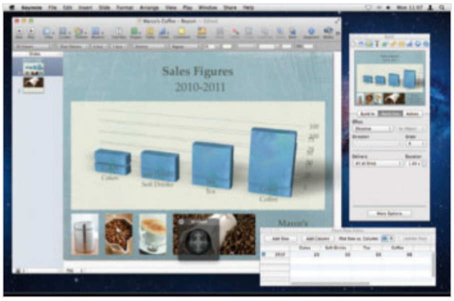
02 Build in

Show the **Inspector** pane if it's not shown already by clicking the **Inspector** button, and then click on the **Build** tab (the yellow diamond). Select your chart and choose an effect from the **Build In** drop-down menu that will introduce your chart to the presentation.


3D Effects
Crane
Grow
Rotate
Rotate & Grow
Z Axis
2D Effects
Comet
Cube
Diffuse
Disappear
Dissolve
Flame
Flash Bulbs
Flip
Iris
Lens Flare
Move Out
Pop
Scale
Shimmer
Sparkle
Wipe
Out
Action
by Object
Order
2
Duration
1.00 s
100
75
50
25
0
Coffee

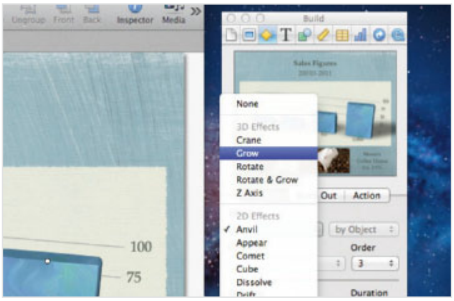
03 Dissolve effect

So that our new chart can be shown, the first chart needs to fade out. Select the **Dissolve Build Out** effect from the **Inspector** and set the duration of the effect to one second or less, depending on how fast you want it to fade, by entering a value into the **Duration** field.


Sales Figures
2010-2011

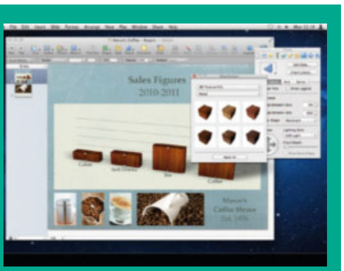
04 New chart

Here comes the tricky part. Start by selecting your chart and then holding the ⌥ key on the keyboard while dragging it. This will create a duplicate of your first chart. Adjust the values on the **Chart Data Editor** for this new chart and position it exactly on top of the first.


Ungroup
Front
Back
Inspector
Media
Build
None
3D Effects
Crane
Grow
Rotate
Rotate & Grow
Z Axis
2D Effects
Anvil
Appear
Comet
Cube
Dissolve
Out
Action
by Object
Order
3
Duration
100
75

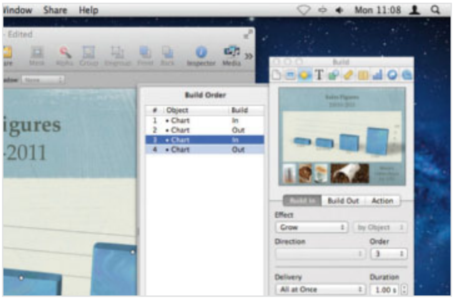
05 New effects

Click the bars of your new chart to select them and then head to the **Inspector** pane's **Build** tab again. Select the **Grow** effect from the **Build In** menu and set the duration to one second or less using the **Duration** field, depending on the duration you set in Step 3.



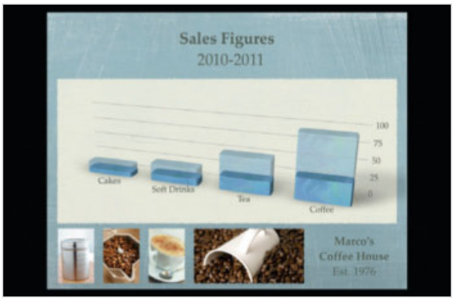
QUICK TIP

To make sure the change between your two sets of figures are as obvious as they can be, consider changing the colour of the second chart's bars so that they stand out. Select your second chart and, from the **Charts** tab, click **Chart Colors...**.


Window
Share
Help
Mon 11:08
Inspector
Media
Build
Build Order
Object
Build
1 • Chart In
2 • Chart Out
3 • Chart In
4 • Chart Out
Build In
Build Out
Action
Effect
Grow
by Object
Direction
Order
3
Delivery
All at Once
Duration
1.00 s
igures
-2011

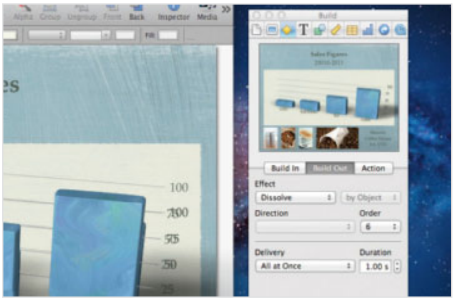
06 More options

Click **More Options** at the bottom of the **Inspector** pane, where you'll see four actions. These are the in and out builds of the two charts. Select build three and choose **Automatically with build 2** from the **Start Build** menu, so that the second chart builds in as the first fades out.


Sales Figures
2010-2011
Cakes
Soft Drinks
Tea
Coffee
Marco's
Coffee House
Est. 1976

07 Test drive

Your chart transition should now be complete. The first chart should appear and, when you click or hit space, will then fade out while the new chart figures seamlessly grow in. Test out your transition by hitting the **Play** button at the top-left of the interface.


Inspector
Media
Build
Build In
Build Out
Action
Effect
Dissolve
by Object
Direction
Order
6
Delivery
All at Once
Duration
1.00 s

08 More charts

If you have more data you want to show in your presentation, you can repeat steps three to six to add additional chart data and have them blend together. Make sure you pay attention to the builds in the **Inspector** so that the charts display in the right order. ●

Tame your email attachments

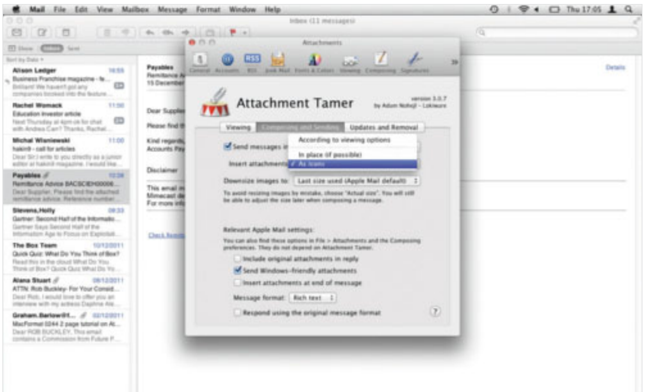
Get Mail to display and send attachments in excactly the way you want

>> KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Beginner

TIME NEEDED
5 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
Attachment Tamer (http://lokiware.info/Attachment-Tamer), OS X 10.5 or later



Attachment Tamer
version 3.0.7
by Adam Nohejl – Lokiware

Viewing | Composing and Sending | Updates and Removal

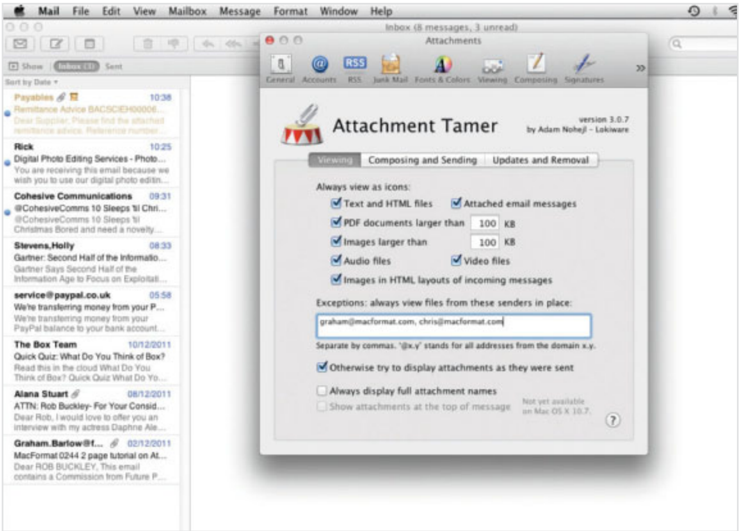
☑ Send messages in
Insert attachments: ✓ As icons (According to viewing options / In place (if possible) / As icons)
Downsize images to: Last size used (Apple Mail default)

Relevant Apple Mail settings:
☐ Include original attachments in reply
☑ Send Windows-friendly attachments
☐ Insert attachments at end of message
Message format: Rich text
☐ Respond using the original message format

Attachments in outgoing messages can be set to appear in messages or attached to them.

Everybody knows that Apple tries to make its software user-friendly, easy to use and helpful. However, the computer world – particularly the internet – is a complicated place. And sometimes, in an effort to be helpful or to keep things simple, Apple makes decisions on your behalf that don't always work out the way you want them to.

A case in point: the way *Mail* handles email attachments. *Mail* tries to be friendly and helpful, but sometimes what it does is neither friendly nor helpful. Got a message with a PDF attached to it? Then *Mail* will try to show you what that PDF looks like, no matter how big it is. You can play back video and audio files in *Mail*, but what if you just want to save them? Got an attachment with a long filename? Then *Mail* will abridge that name so it doesn't take up too much space in the message window, even if the only way you can tell files apart is through the bit that's been abridged in their very long names.



Attachment Tamer
version 3.0.7
by Adam Nohejl – Lokiware

Viewing | Composing and Sending | Updates and Removal

Always view as icons:
☑ Text and HTML files ☑ Attached email messages
☑ PDF documents larger than 100 KB
☑ Images larger than 100 KB
☑ Audio files ☑ Video files
☑ Images in HTML layouts of incoming messages

Exceptions: always view files from these senders in place:
graham@macformat.com, chris@macformat.com
Separate by commas. '@x.y' stands for all addresses from the domain x.y.

☑ Otherwise try to display attachments as they were sent
☐ Always display full attachment names
☐ Show attachments at the top of message — Not yet available on Mac OS X 10.7.

Attachment Tamer lets you alter how Mail displays attachments, such as images.

The size of it

Mail can sometimes take text and HTML attachments, or email messages attached to emails, and helpfully include them in the main message. But it will no longer display them as attachments, which makes saving and printing them harder.

Things get worse with images. If you want to simply attach an image to a message *Mail* won't let you. Instead, it embeds it in the message because it thinks you want people to see it that way. If you resize the image to make it smaller, that's how big it'll make the next image you send as well. Images resized with *Mail* also lose information during resizing. If you just want to send the raw image file, *Mail* isn't going to make it easy. And if you want to both embed and attach images to a message, well, forget it.

The flipside of this is that *Mail* can be very helpful and offer features other mail clients don't offer. You can embed an attachment more or less anywhere in a rich text message using *Mail*. When someone else with *Mail* gets it, that's where the attachment will appear. But is that how the message will appear in *Outlook*? No. It's going to look different and *Mail* doesn't offer a way to make the message look better to other clients.

> *"When you next launch Mail, you'll be given a list of preferences that will enable you to specify how Mail handles attachments"*

Fortunately, Lokiware has developed a plug-in for *Mail* that fixes all these problems and more. It costs $14.99 (£11.60), although you can run it for free indefinitely, and it's simple to install and use. Just download the program from http://lokiware.info/download/Attachment-Tamer-latest.dmg and run the simple installer. When you next launch *Mail*, you'll be given a list of preferences, also available in *Mail's* preferences, that will enable you to specify exactly how *Mail* handles attachments with both incoming and outgoing messages.

Largely, you can accept the default settings and everything will work, but on the next page, we'll show you how to configure *Attachment Tamer* so that *Mail* displays attachments the way you want and embeds attachments the way you want. We'll also show you how to make *Mail* play nicely with Microsoft's *Outlook* and *Exchange* email servers, where the risk of your attachment becoming a ATT0001 file is ever-present. **Rob Buckley**

HOW TO / Display and send attachments

01 Viewing preferences

The *Attachment Tamer* preferences pane will open with the **Viewing** tab. By default, most of the settings will be good to go, but you can still tweak them.

The top of the pane relates to which kinds of attachments will be shown as icons and which attachments will be shown inline. Clicking **Text and HTML files** will ensure that these kinds of attachments will always show up as attachments, rather than be displayed in the message; the same is true if you click **Attached email messages** of email messages that have been attached to incoming messages. Clicking **Audio files** or **Video files** will ensure these kinds of files will never display as media players in email messages, but will always be displayed as attachments instead.

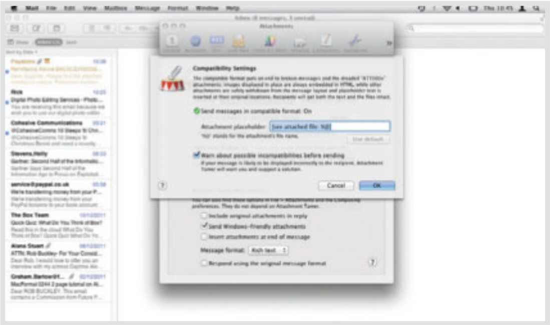
With PDFs and images, you have more options. Here, you can specify minimum file sizes. By default, any PDF or image will appear as an attachment, provided you've ticked the corresponding box. But if you enter a value greater than 0 into either of the matching boxes, *Mail* will try to display images and one-page PDFs in the message, providing they're not bigger than the file size you entered – this means small images, for example, will display in the message, but images could be too large or time-consuming to display will appear as attachments.

02 Exceptions

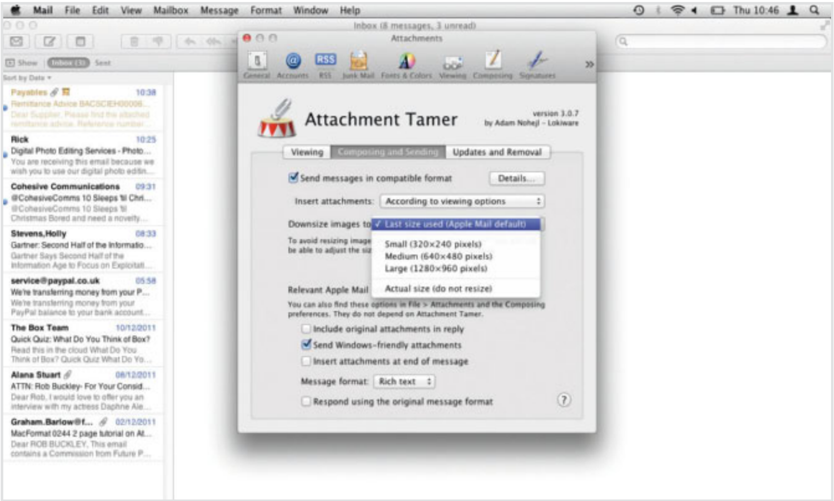
Although you may want regular emails to display attached images as icons, with an HTML email such as a newsletter, you'll probably want to see those images. But if you always want images to be shown as attachments rather than icons, clicking on **Images in HTML layouts of incoming messages** will mean images attached to all emails won't be displayed.

You might also get emails from specific senders where you do want attachments to be displayed in a message. For example, if you get voicemails sent to you by email, you'll probably want to listen to those voicemails straight away. If you enter email addresses separated by commas into the **Exceptions** box, any emails from those addresses will display the attachments "in place". If the emails come from a single domain but have different addresses (for example, 'voicemail1@macformat.com', 'voicemail2@macformat.com', and so on), you can enter that domain ("@macformat.com") into the **Exceptions** box instead.

Lastly, email messages usually contain information about how to display email attachments. *Mail* usually ignores this, but with the box **Otherwise try to display attachments as they were sent** checked, it will respect the information and display files as the sender intended – unless that conflicts with any of your previous settings.



Attachment Tamer can make email messages display better in programs such as Outlook.



Attachment Tamer

version 3.0.7
by Adam Nohejl – Lokiware

☑ Send messages in compatible format

Insert attachments: According to viewing options

Downsize images to: ✓ Last size used (Apple Mail default)

Relevant Apple Mail

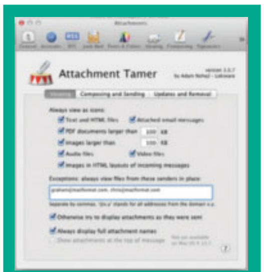
You can also find these options in File > Attachments and the Composing preferences. They do not depend on Attachment Tamer.

☐ Include original attachments in reply
☑ Send Windows-friendly attachments
☐ Insert attachments at end of message

Message format: Rich text

☐ Respond using the original message format

Images that you want to send via email can be set to specific sizes or never resized, automatically.



QUICK TIP

Ticking the **Always display full attachment names** box in the **Viewing** preferences will ensure that the full filenames of attachments are displayed in windows.

03 Composing and Sending

The **Composing and Sending** tab lets you choose the way you can send attachments. The **Insert attachments** menu shows how attachments can be added. **According to viewing options** means whatever options you set for displaying emails is how you'd like attachments to be included in messages. **In place (if possible)** ensures in-line attachments, such as images and text files, are embedded, and **As icons** means that files will be attached to emails.

The **Downsize images to** menu specifies the size that *Mail* will resize images to when you attach them to emails. **Actual size** is the default and ensures images aren't resized, but there are other standard sizes, as well as **Last size used**, which is *Mail's* default.

04 Compatibility

By clicking on **Send messages in a compatible format**, you can ensure that *Microsoft Outlook* and other email clients show any email you send as close as possible to the way you would have wanted. Images will be embedded using HTML, while file types that *Mail* can display inline but *Outlook* can't, such as PDFs, will be added as attachments, with a reference in the email text to the attachment that's supposed to be there. You can customise these references by clicking on **Details...** and entering new text into the **Attachment placeholder** box.

If you want to know if someone might not see a message the way you intended, click **Warn about possible incompatibilities before sending** and *Mail* will warn you if there are problems and suggest a solution. ●

Google cloud print
How it Works
Supported Apps
Cloud Ready Printers
Support
Try it Now
Try it now
Print Anywhere
Print Anything
Share Your Printers
Google Cloud Print Ready
MacBook Air

https://www.google.com/cloudprint/learn/

Google Cloud Print

Print anywhere, from any device.

Google Cloud Print is a new technology that connects your printers to the web. Using Google Cloud Print, you can make your home and work printers available to you and anyone you choose, from the applications you use every day. Google Cloud Print works on your phone, tablet, Chromebook, PC, and any other web-connected device you want to print from.

With Google Cloud Print, you can print from anywhere.

Use Google Cloud Print

You can print from anywhere, even if your printer isn't Google Cloud ready

>> KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Intermediate

TIME NEEDED
20 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
Google Chrome browser, printer, internet connection, Intel Mac running OS X 10.5 or later

With Google Cloud Print, you can connect your printer to the web and print from anywhere. You can use an internet-connected computer, smartphone or tablet to send documents directly to your Google Cloud-enabled printer.

Printing from the cloud is incredibly useful. You could, for example, print a text document while on a train or from a hotel, and have it ready for you as soon as you get home. You can also use Google Cloud Printing to print a web page directly from the *Chrome* browser, or save websites and documents as PDFs in Google Docs. You can even share your printer with others on the network, allowing them to print from their own Google accounts.

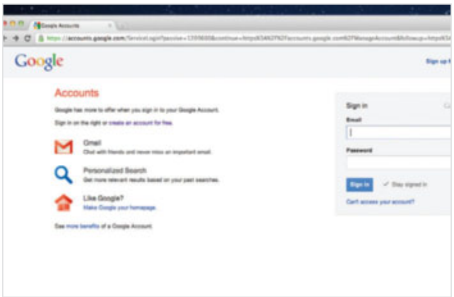
If you have a printer that's Google Cloud Print-ready out of the box, such as Kodak's Hero range, certain Kodak ESP models, HP's ePrint-capable printers and some recent Epsons, setting up is easy. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for more details. But it's perfectly possible to set up and use a printer that isn't Cloud-ready with Google Cloud Print. It even works with a non-networked printer connected to your Mac through USB. That's what we're looking at here. Following this tutorial installs the Google Cloud Print connector on your Mac, after which your 'classic', non-Google-enabled printer can be used for Google Cloud Printing.

The initial setup has to be done using Google's Chrome browser. But after that, you can print from a wide range of web applications, and can manage your cloud printing in *Safari* or *Firefox* if you wish. Printing from the cloud can be slow, so don't panic if your Google Cloud Print doesn't instantly appear. And before you start, make sure you have a printer connected to your Mac that's correctly installed and switched on.

Ian Osborne

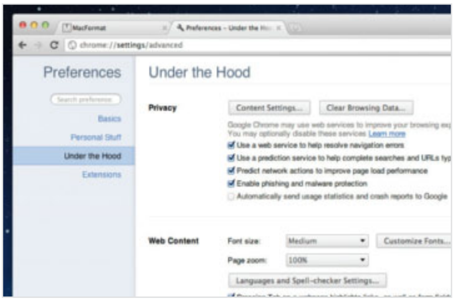
> *"You could print a text document while on a train or from a hotel, and have it ready for when you get home"*

HOW TO / Set up your printer for cloud printing


Google
Accounts
Sign in

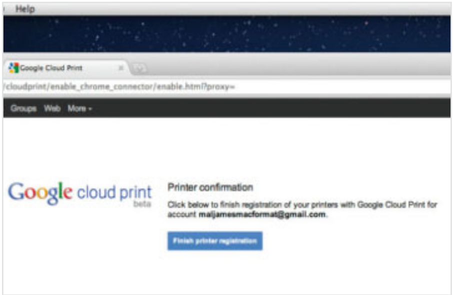
01 Your Google Account

If you don't already have one, create a Google account. Go to **www.google.com/accounts** and click the **Sign up for a new Google Account** link in the top-right corner. Follow the instructions to create your Google Account. If you already have one, sign in.


Preferences
Under the Hood
Basics
Personal Stuff
Under the Hood
Extensions
Privacy
Content Settings...
Clear Browsing Data...
Web Content

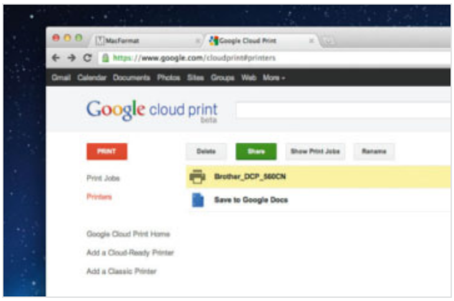
02 Google Cloud Print

For this step, we need to use Google's *Chrome* browser. If you don't have it, download at **www.google.com/chrome**. Launch *Chrome*, click on the spanner in the top-right corner and select **Preferences**. Select the **Under the Hood** tab, found in the list on the left-hand side.


Google cloud print beta
Printer confirmation
Finish printer registration

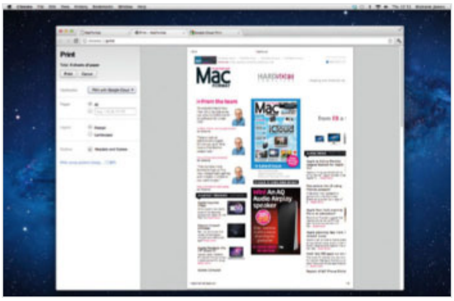
03 Signing in

Scroll down to the foot of the **Under the Hood** section, and look for **Google Cloud Print** – it's right at the bottom. Press the **Sign in to Google Cloud Print** button. You're taken to a screen that invites you to finish registering your printer with Google Cloud Print. Do so.


Google cloud print beta
PRINT
Delete
Share
Show Print Jobs
Rename
Brother_DCP_560CN
Save to Google Docs
Print Jobs
Printers
Google Cloud Print Home
Add a Cloud-Ready Printer
Add a Classic Printer

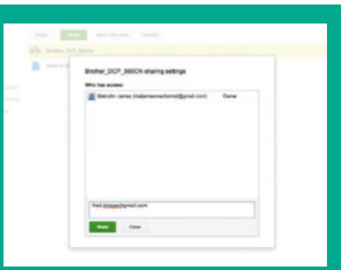
04 Managing Printers

Your printer is now registered with Google Cloud Print. Click on the **Manage your Printers** link to be taken to your cloud print page. Here you can see current print jobs, add further cloud printers, share your printers and more. It might be wise to bookmark this page.



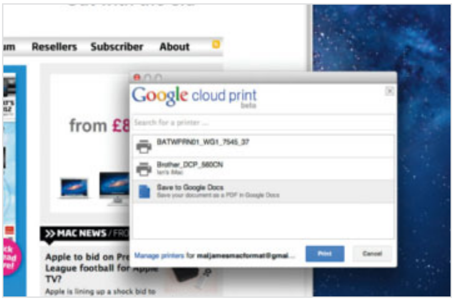
05 Print from Chrome

To cloud-print a website from your *Chrome* browser, select **Print** from the spanner button, or press ctrl + P. In the **Print** column on the left, select **Print with Google Cloud Print** from the **Destination** pull-down and press **Print**. Select the required printer and press **Print**.


Brother_DCP_560CN sharing settings
Who has access

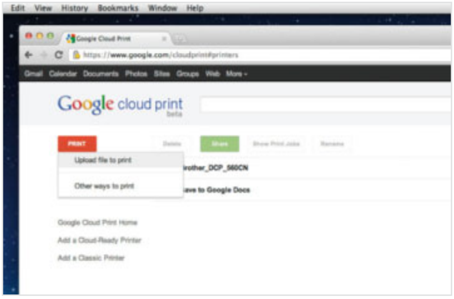
QUICK TIP

You can share a printer connected to Google Cloud Print with anyone who also has a Google Account. Go to **www.google.com/cloudprint**, and click on the word **Printers**. Select the printer you want to share, click **Share**, and enter a user's email.


Google cloud print beta
Brother_DCP_560CN
Save to Google Docs
Print
Cancel

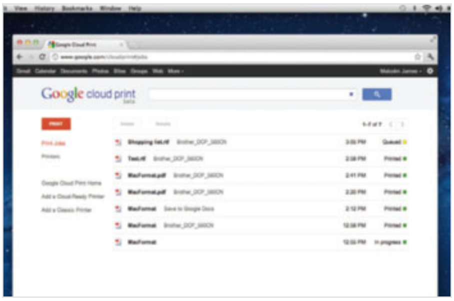
06 Save to Google Docs

To save a *Chrome* web page to Google Docs as a PDF instead of printing it, follow Step 5, but instead of selecting a printer in the pop-up window, click on **Save to Google Docs** before pressing **Print**. It can then be accessed, printed or downloaded from **www.docs.google.com**.


Google cloud print beta
PRINT
Upload file to print
Other ways to print

07 Upload and Print

To print a document from your hard drive, from the Cloud Print page (**www.google.com/cloudprint**), press the orange **Print** button in the top-left corner. From the pop-up menu, select **Upload File to Print**. Navigate to and open the document, select a printer and press **Print**.


Google cloud print beta
PRINT

08 Print Queue

If your Mac or Google Cloud printer is switched off, or your Mac is signed into a different account, you can still submit a print job. It's queued and printed when you next log in. The printer-connected Mac doesn't have to be logged into your Google Account to print. ●

9:31
44:09
SAMSUNG
MacBook Air

Streaming media to your TV from your iPhone is a doddle thanks to AirPlay.

Stream media to your TV

Beam movies and music from your Apple devices to your television screen

» KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Intermediate

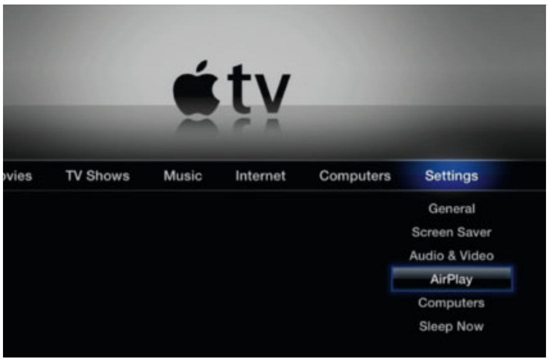
TIME NEEDED
45 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
Apple TV, an iOS device or Mac, AirPort Express (optional)

Although your music and video might be stored on your Mac or an iOS device, it isn't stuck there. AirPlay is a feature built into *iTunes* on the Mac and in many iOS apps. Using an Apple TV (£99), your media can be redirected to your TV. With an AirPort Express (£79), music can be streamed to your hi-fi, and if you're thinking of replacing that, certain speakers now come with AirPlay support built right into them.

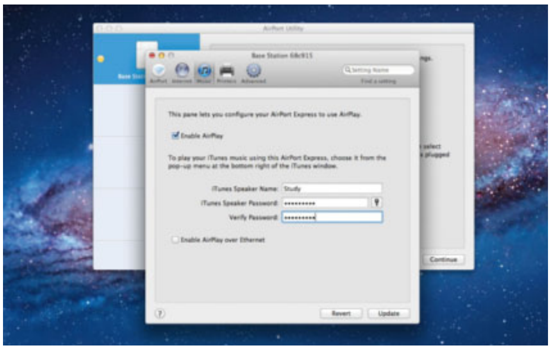
AirPlay is simple to operate, once you know how to control it. But that isn't always obvious. Apple's apps display an AirPlay icon – a TV screen-like shape with an arrow below, pointing into it – when AirPlay receivers are available on the same network as your device. Clicking it in *iTunes* or in an iOS app lists the available receivers.

It's easy to be misled into thinking third-party apps don't support AirPlay because they don't display an AirPlay button. So, whether this is your first time with AirPlay, or if you've already used it to stream from *iTunes* on your Mac, we've gathered tips that will help you get the most out of this flexible and convenient feature.
Alan Stonebridge



01 Prepare an Apple TV

Make sure your Apple TV, Mac and iOS devices are connected to the same network. On your Apple TV, select **Settings**. Choose **AirPlay** from it and you'll be presented with two items. Choose the first, **AirPlay**, and set it to **On**. The second item lets you set a password that must be entered on a remote device before the Apple TV will receive media from it.


AirPort Utility
Base Station 68c915
AirPort
Internet
Music
Printers
Advanced
Setting Name
Find a setting
Revert
Update
Continue

This pane lets you configure your AirPort Express to use AirPlay.

☑ Enable AirPlay

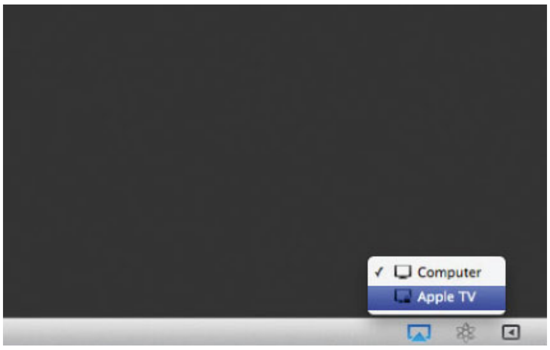
To play your iTunes music using this AirPort Express, choose it from the pop-up menu at the bottom right of the iTunes window.

iTunes Speaker Name: Study
iTunes Speaker Password: ••••••••••
Verify Password: ••••••••••

☐ Enable AirPlay over Ethernet

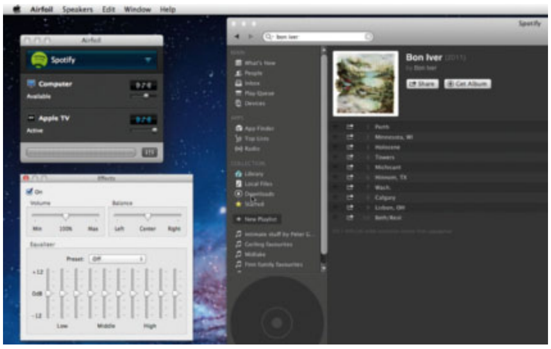
02 Prepare AirPort Express

An AirPort Express device can receive audio from AirPlay devices and send it to speakers connected to its 3.5mm output using the appropriate analog or digital cable. Open *AirPort Utility* (in **Applications/Utilities**) and click **Music** in the toolbar. Tick the **Enable AirPlay** checkbox, optionally set a password, then press **Update**.


✓ Computer
Apple TV

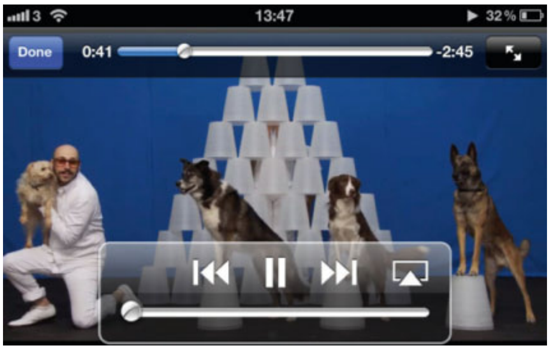
03 Stream from iTunes on your Mac

When *iTunes* detects a receiver on the network, the AirPlay icon appears among the icons in its bottom-right corner. Click it, choose one, and enter the password if you set one. It can be stored in the keychain or entered every time. Play something to send it to that receiver. The bottom option lets you send music to several receivers.


Airfoil
Spotify
Computer
Apple TV
Bon Iver

04 Other Mac apps

You can stream audio from other Mac apps using *AirFoil* ($25 from **http://rogueamoeba.com**). At the top of its window, choose the app whose audio you want to redirect – we've chosen *Spotify* – then click the musical note next to the receivers you want to send it to. Like *iTunes*, you can adjust the volume of each speaker.


3
13:47
32 %
Done
0:41
-2:45

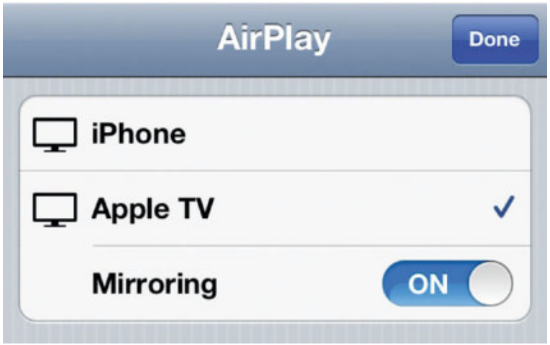
05 Stream from an iOS device

The AirPlay button for choosing a receiver moves depending on the iOS device and app you're using. It's at the top-right of the iPad's *Music* app. In *Videos* and in both apps on iPod touch and iPhone, it's next to the playback controls; tap the screen with something playing to show them. The setting can be changed on the Lock screen.

1hr 30 mins
Sherlock

06 Stream from iPlayer

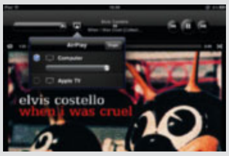
Some apps – including *iPlayer* and *4oD* – don't display an AirPlay button, but they can use it. On an iOS 5 device, double-press the **Home** button and swipe left to right across the task switcher. The iPad lists an AirPlay button here. On iPhone and iPod touch, swipe once more to reach it. Tap the button and choose a receiver.


AirPlay
Done
iPhone
Apple TV ✓
Mirroring
ON

07 Apps without AirPlay

That method doesn't work with every app; *ITV Player*, for example. However, the iPad 2 and iPhone 4S can show any app on your TV. Double-press the Home button, swipe to reach the AirPlay button and tap your Apple TV's name. Turn on **Mirroring** when it appears. Use your TV's picture size control to fill the screen. ●

>> EXPERT TIP

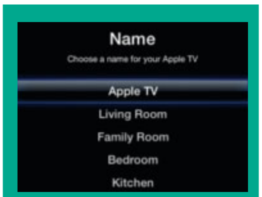

elvis costello
when I was cruel

In control

If you have an iOS device, you needn't run back to your computer to change what's playing and where. Grab the free *Remote* app (**http://itun.es/iL48C2**). First, choose the computer whose library you want to use, then wait for its contents to appear on your iOS device. You can browse manually or use the search box, just like on your Mac.

On the iPhone and iPod touch, the AirPlay button at the top-right lets you choose a receiver before you begin playing. This button isn't shown on the iPad. However, it's soon replaced with 'Now Playing' anyway.

Tap 'Now Playing' to see the current item's artwork along with playback controls. It's here that you'll always find an AirPlay button to choose where audio or video is sent.


Name
Choose a name for your Apple TV
Apple TV
Living Room
Family Room
Bedroom
Kitchen

>> QUICK TIP

Got more than one receiver? Assign unique names to identify them. For Apple TV, enter one in Settings > General > Name. For AirPort Express, it's under **Music** in **AirPort Utility**.

Customise OS X 10.7 Lion

Change the background images used in Mission Control, Dashboard and more

KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Intermediate

TIME NEEDED
30 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
OS X 10.7 Lion, Lion Designer (http://bit.ly/liondesigner)

You can customise a lot of things on your Mac – the desktop background and your user icon, to name two. But there is also plenty of visual design in Lion that Apple won't let you change.

You can't for example, alter the grey background that appears behind Mission Control and on your login screen. Neither can the background of your folders in Launchpad be tinkered with, or the backdrop to *Dashboard*. However, with a free app called *Lion Designer*, you can change these things and more. You can even bring back the colour to the icons in your *Finder* sidebar (though there is quite a big caveat to this, as we'll explain on the opposite page).

When you first open *Lion Designer*, it looks a bit bewildering. There are so many buttons. That's why we're going to show you how to harness its power to make your Mac look just the way you want. The great thing about it is that if you later change your mind and want to go back to the original images, all you have to do is click a button in *Lion Designer* and it'll return things to how they were when you first got your Mac or installed Lion.

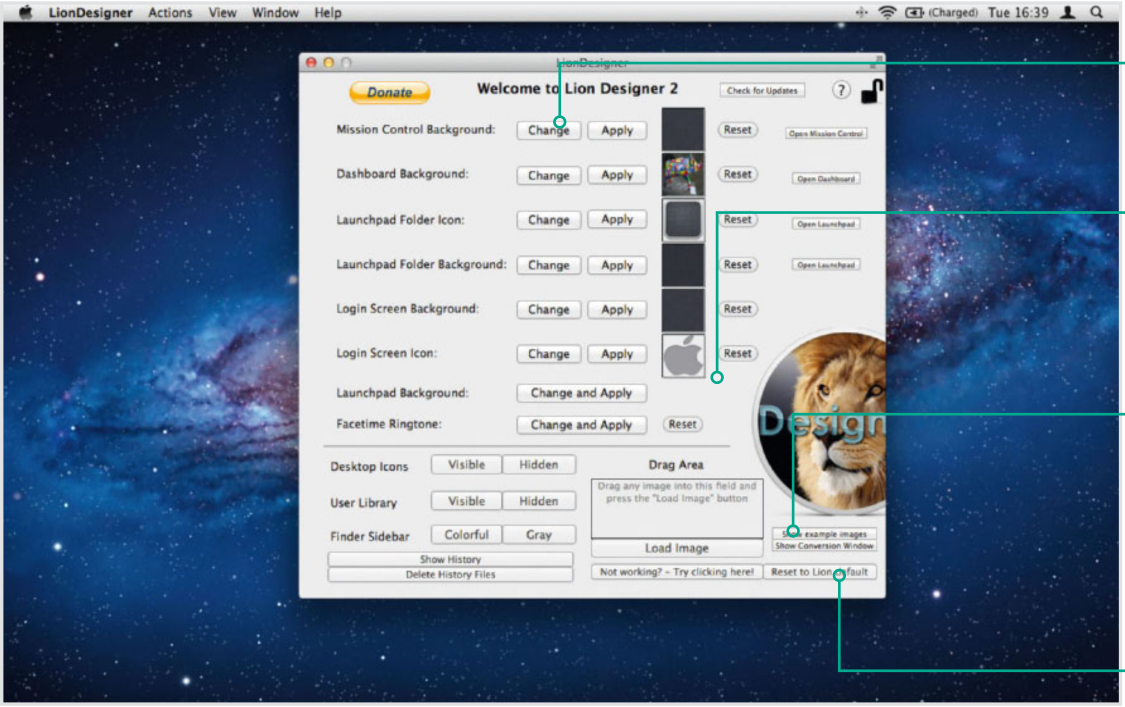
There are a couple of things to point out before you begin. Firstly, the app is a bit rough and ready, and lacks the polish of many OS X apps. We also found an odd little glitch with it, where it wouldn't reset one of the backgrounds to the Lion default any more. With this in mind, we suggest you make a full backup of your Mac before tinkering with the system. That way, if things do go amiss, you know you can return matters to how they were. Having said that, the app worked flawlessly most of the time, so don't let this put you off using it. Once you've made the changes you want, you won't need to touch *Lion Designer* until you want to tinker further.

> *"With the Lion Designer app, you can even bring back the colour to the icons in your Finder sidebar"*

Point your web browser at http://bit.ly/liondesigner and download the latest stable version (2.9 at the time of writing). Once it's downloaded, click the Downloads button in the top-right of your *Safari* window, then click the magnifying glass next to *Lion Designer*, which will show you its icon in your Downloads folder. Copy it to your Applications folder and then double-click it from there.

Laurence Cable

QUICK LOOK / The Lion Designer interface


LionDesigner
Actions
View
Window
Help
(Charged)
Tue 16:39
LionDesigner
Donate
Welcome to Lion Designer 2
Check for Updates
?
Mission Control Background:
Change
Apply
Reset
Open Mission Control
Dashboard Background:
Change
Apply
Reset
Open Dashboard
Launchpad Folder Icon:
Change
Apply
Reset
Open Launchpad
Launchpad Folder Background:
Change
Apply
Reset
Open Launchpad
Login Screen Background:
Change
Apply
Reset
Login Screen Icon:
Change
Apply
Reset
Launchpad Background:
Change and Apply
Facetime Ringtone:
Change and Apply
Reset
Desktop Icons
Visible
Hidden
User Library
Visible
Hidden
Finder Sidebar
Colorful
Gray
Show History
Delete History Files
Drag Area
Load Image
Show example images
Show Conversion Window
Not working? – Try clicking here!
Reset to Lion default
Design

Drag any image into this field and press the "Load Image" button

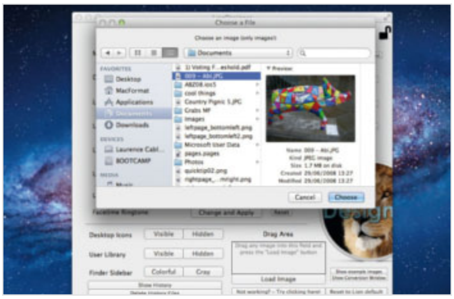
Change/Apply
Click **Change** to pick a new image for each background, then click **Apply** to confirm.

Thumbnails
Choose an image using the **Change** button and its thumbnail appears.

Conversion
If your image doesn't display correctly, click **Conversion Window**.

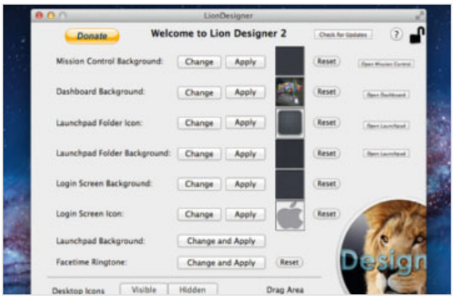
Reset
Click this button to revert any changes you made to Lion.

HOW TO / Change background images in Lion



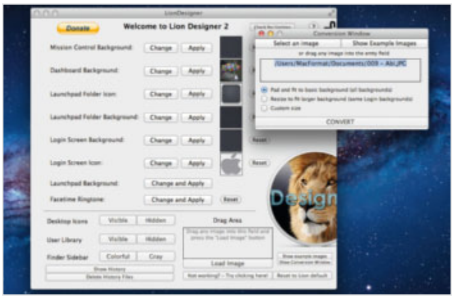
01 What to change?

Let's give *Dashboard* a more interesting background than its standard grey dots. Next to **Dashboard Background:** click **Change**. In the window, click **OK**. Either select a sample image, or browse to an image elsewhere on your Mac's hard drive. Click **Choose** once you settle on one.



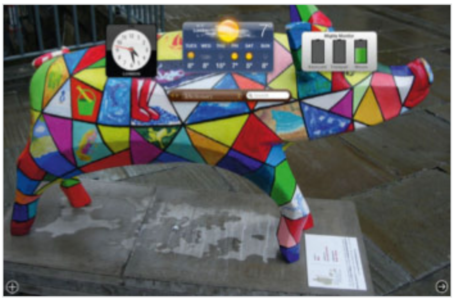
02 Swap pictures

You'll see the image in the thumbnail to the right of **Dashboard Background**. To use it, click **Apply** to its left. Type in an administrator password if prompted – you may have to do this several times. Then open *Dashboard* to see your new image.



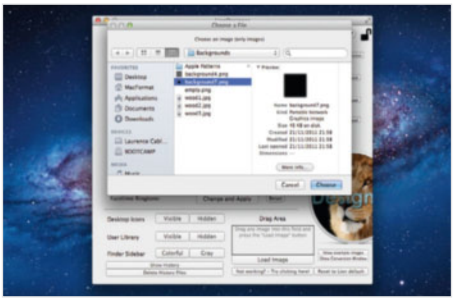
03 Make it right

If the image doesn't show, it was the wrong size. So click **Show Conversion Window** in the lower right corner. In *Finder*, locate the image, duplicate it and drag its icon to the **Conversion Window**. Leave the top radio button selected, and click **Convert** below.



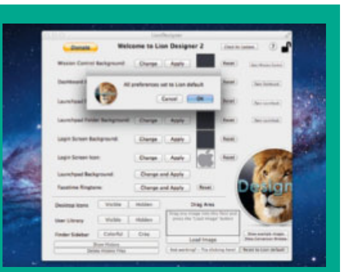
04 New background

Your image shows as a thumbnail next to each place it can be used. Click **Apply** next to **Dashboard Background**; type your password. Now open *Dashboard* and the image should appear. *Lion Designer* resizes for the main screen, so the image may be tiled on a larger one.



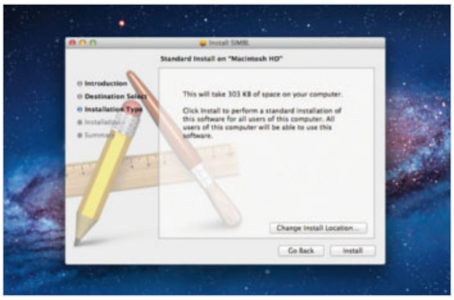
05 Change other things

Altering other backgrounds or icons works in the same way – select your image and apply the change. You may need to restart your Mac or log out and then log back in for the alteration to take effect. If the image doesn't display right, pop it through the converter.



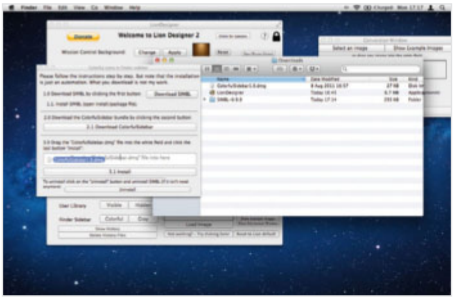
QUICK TIP

Want to set things back to the Lion defaults? Open up *Lion Designer* and use the button in the lower right corner to get things moving. Note that you may well have to type your administrator password in as *Lion Designer* reverts your settings.



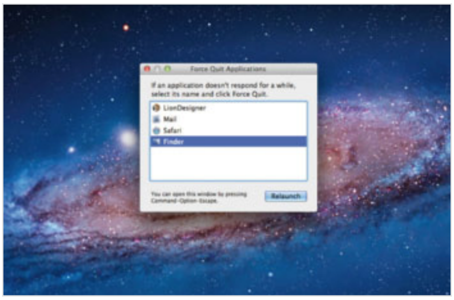
06 Get started

Down near the bottom of the *Lion Designer* window, you'll see a *Finder* **Sidebar** heading. Click the button marked **Colorful**. Click **Download SIMBL** in the top-right corner of the window. It will download to your **Downloads** folder; double-click its PKG icon.



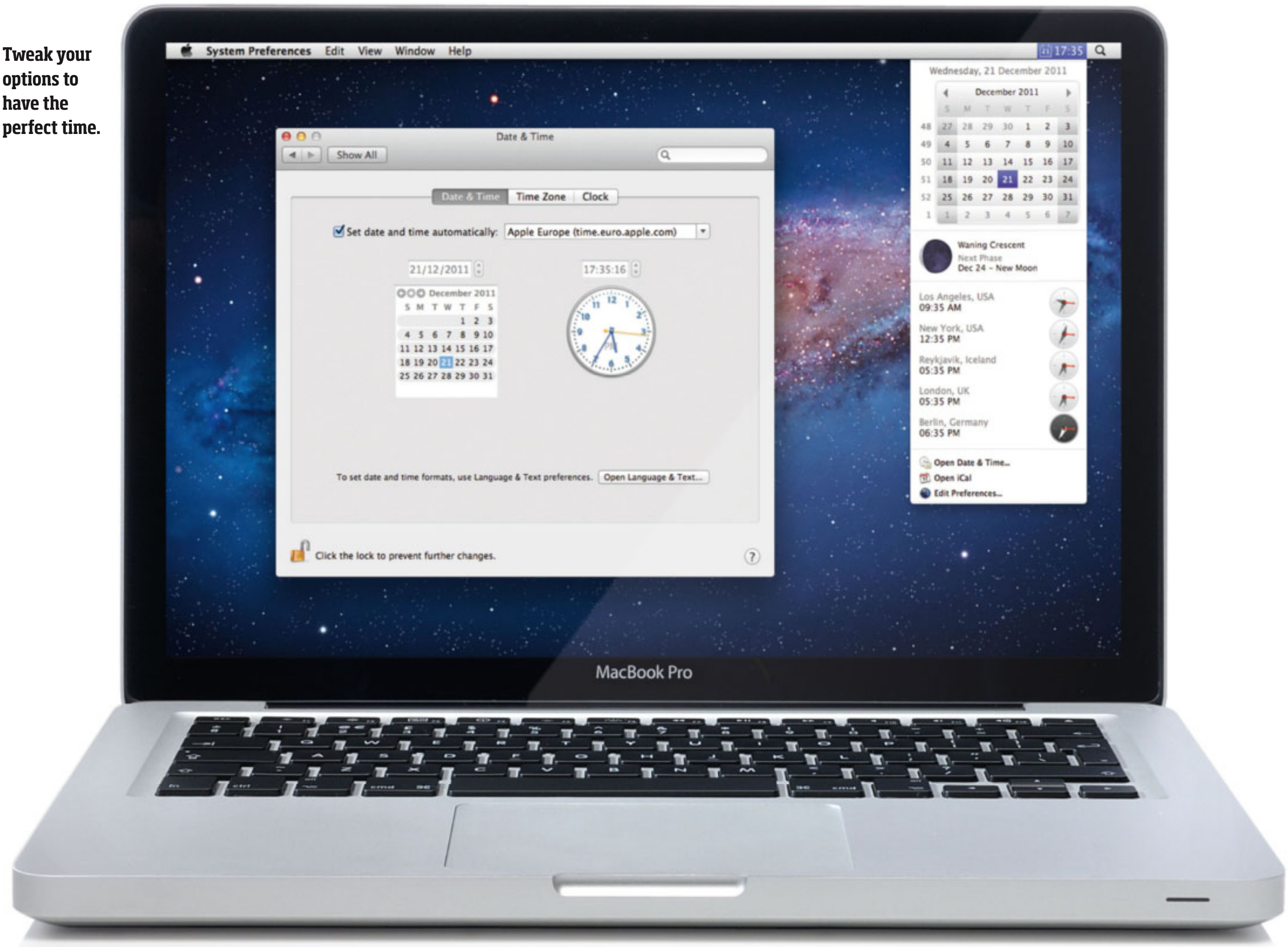
07 Second download

When SIMBL is installed, return to the *Lion Designer* instructions window and click the **2.1 Download ColorfulSidebar** button. This too appears in your **Downloads** folder. Drag its DMG file to the white box in the instructions window under '3.0'. Then click **3.1 Install** below.



08 After every restart

Click on a *Finder* window and you'll see the colour has been restored to the sidebar icons, now they're much easier to find. What's irksome is that every time you restart your Mac, you'll need to choose > Force Quit…, select *Finder* and click **Relaunch** to get the colour.


System Preferences
Edit
View
Window
Help
17:35
Date & Time
Show All
Date & Time
Time Zone
Clock
December 2011
Open Language & Text...
Wednesday, 21 December 2011
Waning Crescent
Next Phase
Dec 24 – New Moon
Los Angeles, USA
09:35 AM
New York, USA
12:35 PM
Reykjavik, Iceland
05:35 PM
London, UK
05:35 PM
Berlin, Germany
06:35 PM
Open Date & Time...
Open iCal
Edit Preferences...
MacBook Pro

☑ Set date and time automatically: Apple Europe (time.euro.apple.com)

21/12/2011

17:35:16

To set date and time formats, use Language & Text preferences.

Click the lock to prevent further changes.

Tweak your options to have the perfect time.

Master Date & Time settings

It's quite helpful if your Mac knows the date and time, so that you do too!

>> KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Intermediate

TIME NEEDED
10 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
OS X Lion (many settings are similar under previous versions of OS X), Day-O (optional), iStat Menus (optional)

These days, many people live their lives to fairly strict schedules and routines, sometimes planning events many months in advance, and what they're doing on any given day on an hour-by-hour basis. In short, if you don't know what time of day it is (and, indeed, what *day* it is), you've got a problem. And for you to know these things, your Mac needs to know them too. There's not much point in you adding *iCal* events for next Friday if, when the time rolls round, your Mac thinks it's half-past Tuesday.

The settings that deal with the date and time are, suitably, found within the Date & Time pane within *System Preferences*, which in Snow Leopard and OS X Lion lives within the System section. By and large, the options found within the pane are straightforward, but there are some semi-hidden away that you need to be mindful of, and these are covered in the walkthrough.

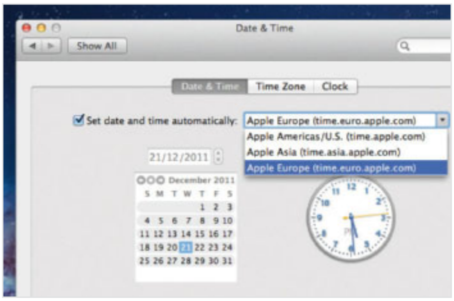
As with other tutorials in this series, we've worked with Lion, but you'll find the majority of settings are essentially identical if you're running Snow Leopard. If you use Leopard, you should also find a number of the tips work just fine. Towards the end of the walkthrough, we also explore two ways of improving the menu-bar clock by replacing it. *Day-O* is free and provides the means to access a small calendar from the menu bar; it's available from http://bit.ly/nRjy5b. *iStat Menus* costs $16 and is available from bjango.com/mac/istatmenus. *iStat Menus* is a more involved product, being a tool for monitoring all kinds of things to do with your system, including CPU, memory and disk usage.

> *"There's no point adding events for Friday if, when the time rolls round, your Mac thinks it's Tuesday"*

However, it's also the best world clock available for OS X and so if that's important to you, it will be worth the outlay.

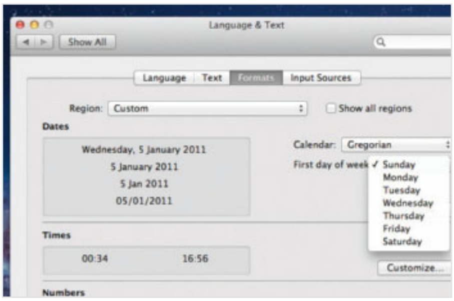
Craig Grannell

»HOW TO / Sort out your Mac's system clock and time settings


Date & Time
Show All
Date & Time
Time Zone
Clock
☑ Set date and time automatically:
Apple Europe (time.euro.apple.com)
Apple Americas/U.S. (time.apple.com)
Apple Asia (time.asia.apple.com)
Apple Europe (time.euro.apple.com)
21/12/2011
December 2011
S M T W T F S
1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31

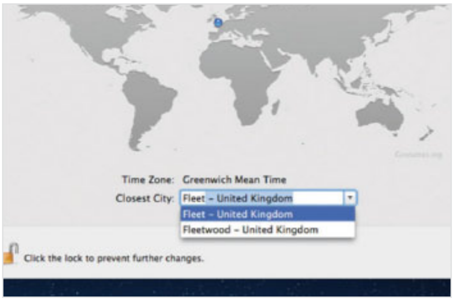
01 Set the time

In the **Date & Time** *System Preferences* pane, click the **Date & Time** tab. If you've a web connection, check **Set date and time automatically** and select your country. If you're not connected online, use the menus to manually set the date and time.


Language & Text
Show All
Language
Text
Formats
Input Sources
Region: Custom
☐ Show all regions
Dates
Wednesday, 5 January 2011
5 January 2011
5 Jan 2011
05/01/2011
Calendar: Gregorian
First day of week ✓ Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday
Times
00:34
16:56
Customize...
Numbers

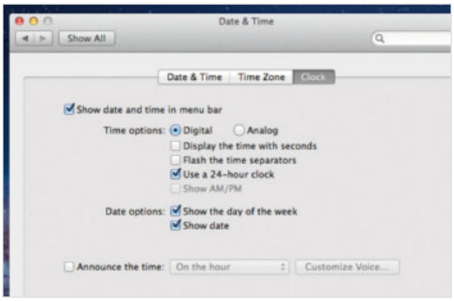
02 Customise formatting

Click the button at the bottom of the pane to switch to the **Formats** tab of **Language & Text**. Here, you can customise how times and dates are displayed. Select from the **Region** menu to use a default, or amend menu options to customise further.


Time Zone: Greenwich Mean Time
Closest City: Fleet – United Kingdom
Fleet – United Kingdom
Fleetwood – United Kingdom
Click the lock to prevent further changes.

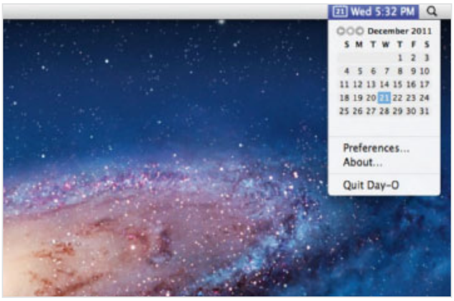
03 Define your time zone

Go back to the **Date & Time** pane. Now click **Time Zone**. Check the box to automatically set your time zone using your location, or define your location manually. The quickest way to do so is to type your location in the **Closest City** field.


Date & Time
Show All
Date & Time
Time Zone
Clock
☑ Show date and time in menu bar
Time options: ● Digital ○ Analog
☐ Display the time with seconds
☐ Flash the time separators
☑ Use a 24-hour clock
☐ Show AM/PM
Date options: ☑ Show the day of the week
☑ Show date
☐ Announce the time: On the hour
Customize Voice...

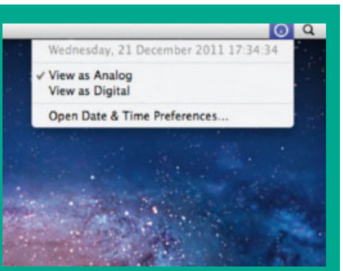
04 Add a menu-bar clock

Select the **Clock** tab. Click **Show date and time in menu bar** to display the standard clock. Use **Time options** to adjust its appearance (seconds, flashing separators, 24- or 12-hour). Check the **Date options** boxes to also display the day and/or date in the menu bar.


21 Wed 5:32 PM
December 2011
S M T W T F S
1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31
Preferences...
About...
Quit Day-O

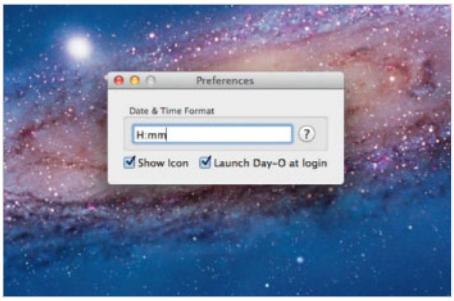
05 Replace the system clock

The Mac's default menu-bar clock is fine, but alternatives can provide more functionality. Install and launch *Day-O* to replace the system clock. (If it doesn't, ⌘-drag the default clock off.) Click *Day-O* and you'll see a calendar. Select *Preferences* and amend *Day-O's* appearance.


Wednesday, 21 December 2011 17:34:34
✓ View as Analog
View as Digital
Open Date & Time Preferences...

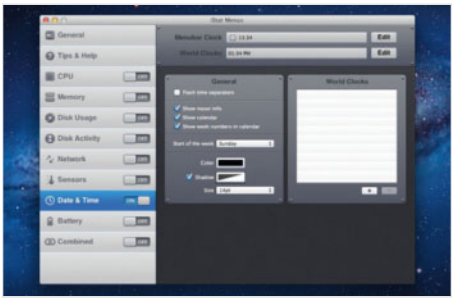
»QUICK TIP

Although a digital clock is normal in the Mac menu bar, there is an analogue setting. You can access this by clicking the clock and choosing **View as Analog**; to revert back to the digital setting, select **View as Digital**.


Preferences
Date & Time Format
H:mm
?
☑ Show Icon
☑ Launch Day-O at login

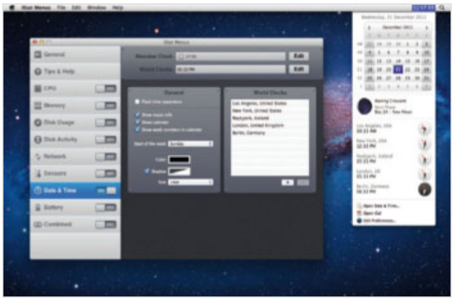
06 Use Day-O

Use the **Show Icon** box to toggle the visibility of the calendar icon. Uncheck the **Launch...** option if you don't want *Day-O* at login. For a custom date-and-time format, type a unicode string into the field. (Click the '?' icon for a symbol table. **H:mm** gives a 24-hour clock.)


General
Tips & Help
CPU
Memory
Disk Usage
Disk Activity
Network
Sensors
Date & Time
Battery
Combined

07 Install iStat Menus

If you want a more feature-packed menu-bar clock, install *iStat Menus*. Click **Date & Time** to turn the module on – it'll appear in the menu bar. You can ⌘-drag the module to adjust its horizontal position. You can also ⌘-drag the default clock from the menu bar to disable it.



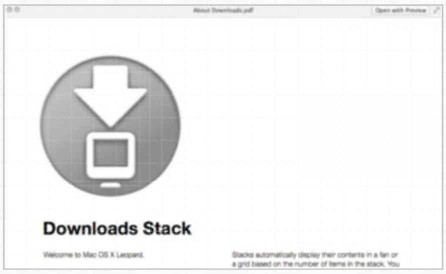
08 Add a world clock

Within *iStat Menus*, you can edit the appearance of the clock and add entries to the **World Clocks** list by using the + button. Access the clocks by clicking the *iStat Menus* menu-bar clock – handy if you do business with countries in different time zones. ●

Words: Matthew Bolton

Apple basics

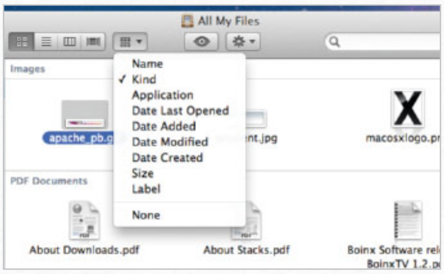
10 top tips for getting more from Finder


About Downloads.pdf
Open with Preview
Downloads Stack
Welcome to Mac OS X Leopard.

Quick Look

Get a glimpse of a file

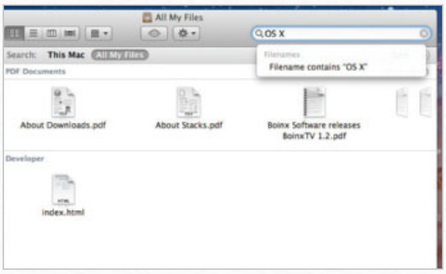
01 Quick Look is one of the most useful features of OS X, and it's one we use all the time in the *MacFormat* office. Select a file and just hit the spacebar to preview it in a pop-up window without having to wait for any apps to open fully. It's great for checking a bit of information from a document, or for finding the correct document if you've got lots of similar ones next to each other. Select more than one file by clicking the first then holding ⌘ while selecting others, and you can preview them all at once as an index sheet.


All My Files
Images
Name
✓ Kind
Application
Date Last Opened
Date Added
Date Modified
Date Created
Size
Label
None
apache_pb.g
nt.jpg
macosxlogo.p
PDF Documents
About Downloads.pdf
About Stacks.pdf
Boinx Software rel
BoinxTV 1.2.p

All My Files

Sort your files more efficiently

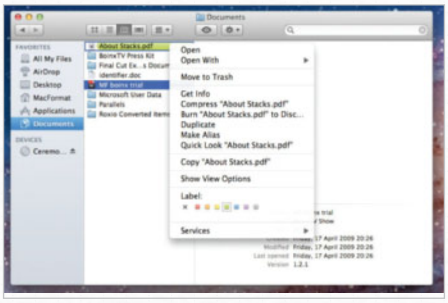
02 OS X Lion adds a brand-new feature called All My Files that displays when you open a new *Finder* window. You can use it to find files a lot more quickly by rearranging it. Click on the icon showing six squares and two lines and you can arrange All My Files by Kind (the default), Name, Application, Size and more. Depending on how you like to work, these can help you locate things much more quickly. You can also sort any folder in these ways by right-clicking and choosing Arrange By.


All My Files
OS X
Search: This Mac All My Files
PDF Documents
Filenames
Filename contains "OS X"
About Downloads.pdf
About Stacks.pdf
Boinx Software releases BoinxTV 1.2.pdf
Developer
index.html

Search

Find specific files quickly

03 There's a search bar in the top-right corner of the *Finder* window that you can use to find files easily. Type in a search term and it begins scouring your files, but you can narrow what it looks for by hitting the + button underneath. For example, you can search only in specific folders, search for recently modified files, search for a name or something in the content of the file. If you're searching for a PDF file, you can specify to only look for that file type, for example, immediately narrowing down the possibilities.


Documents
FAVORITES
All My Files
AirDrop
Desktop
MacFormat
Applications
Documents
DEVICES
Open
Open With
Move to Trash
Get Info
Compress "About Stacks.pdf"
Burn "About Stacks.pdf" to Disc...
Duplicate
Make Alias
Quick Look "About Stacks.pdf"
Copy "About Stacks.pdf"
Show View Options
Label:
Services

Labels

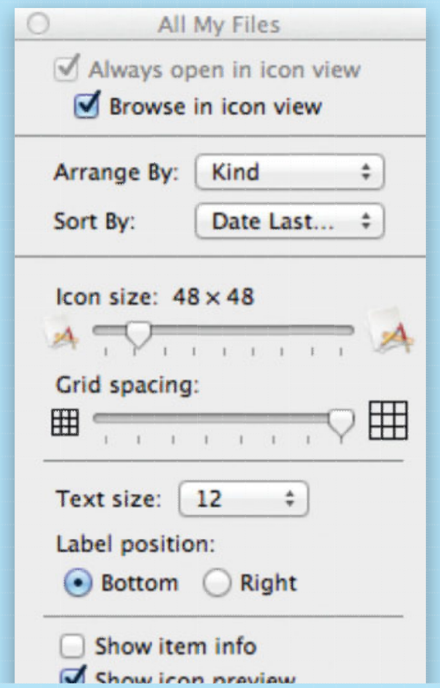
Quickly group your files by colour

04 This tip is great for helping you quickly identify a file. Right-click (or ctrl-click) on any file in *Finder* and you'll notice that a Label option becomes available in the menu. This enables you to add a colour to the name of the file or folder, which initially helps to differentiate it from those around it. But you can also arrange the files in a folder by Label, so all the green files would be grouped, for example. You can also search (see tip 3) for Labels or add them to a smart folder (see tip 10), but take note that they're in the 'Other' list as 'File label'.

View options

Work in a way that suits you

05 You can browse *Finder* with a few different view options, which can be switched between using the toolbar at the top of the window. What works best depends on the type of files you're working with. You can have a grid of icons, a long list, multiple columns, and Cover Flow, which previews files as images in the window (similar to album covers in *iTunes*). When you've found one that works for you, you can tweak it. For example: the Cover Flow image size can be adjusted; the icon size can be made bigger or smaller by right-clicking and selecting View Options; and you can adjust the spacings in the column view by holding ⌘ and dragging them across.



All My Files

☑ Always open in icon view

☑ Browse in icon view

Arrange By: Kind

Sort By: Date Last...

Icon size: 48 × 48

Grid spacing:

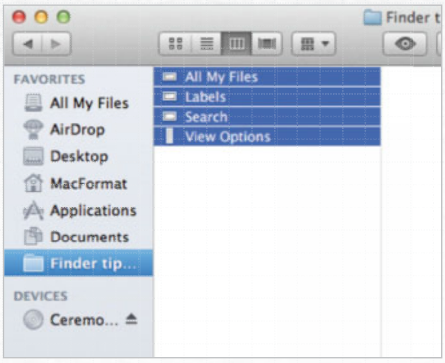
Text size: 12

Label position:

● Bottom ○ Right

☐ Show item info

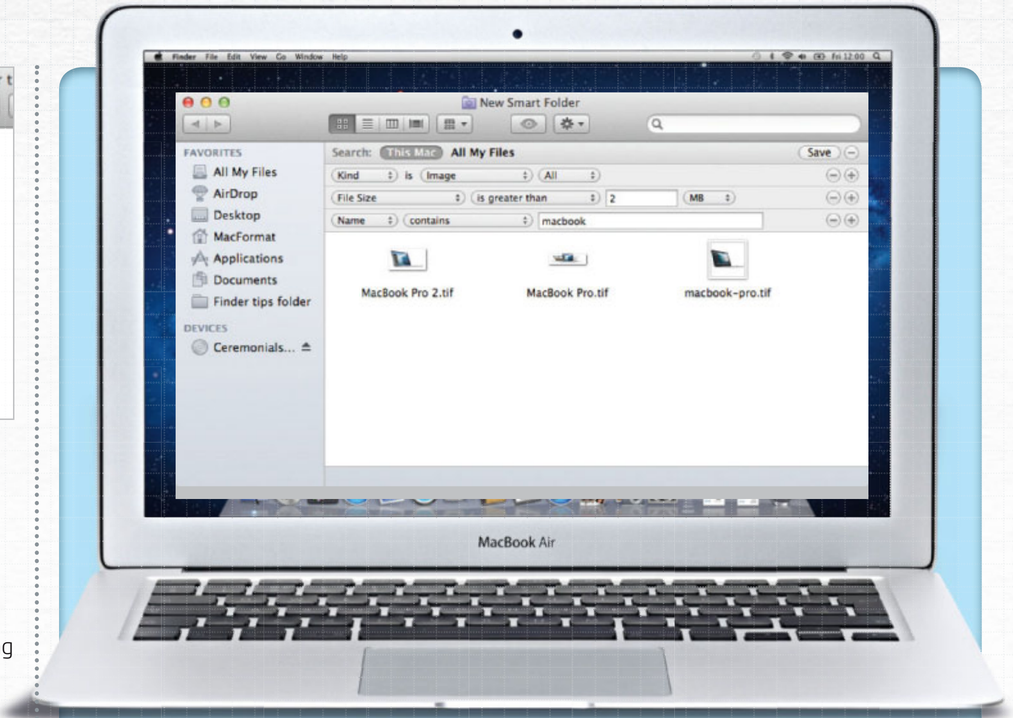
☑ Show icon preview


Finder t
FAVORITES
All My Files
AirDrop
Desktop
MacFormat
Applications
Documents
Finder tip...
DEVICES
Ceremo...
All My Files
Labels
Search
View Options

Favorites

Quickly access most-used files

06 It's worth making good use of the Favorites sidebar in *Finder*. It can be found on the left side of the window, and comes with several shortcut presets, including All My Files and AirDrop in Lion, as well as Documents, Movies, Music and others. It's also where plugged-in devices will appear, including your USB drives, CDs and DVDs. You can add any file or folder you like to it simply by dragging the folder into the sidebar, but be sure you highlight a space between two other Favorites, or you'll move the file/folder instead of adding it to the sidebar. To remove anything from your Favorites, just hold ⌘ and drag it out of the sidebar – it doesn't matter where. You'll see the shortcut vanish in a puff, but don't worry too much: the original folder will still be exactly where you last left it.


Finder File Edit View Go Window Help
Fri 12:00
New Smart Folder
FAVORITES
All My Files
AirDrop
Desktop
MacFormat
Applications
Documents
Finder tips folder
DEVICES
Ceremonials...
Save
MacBook Pro 2.tif
MacBook Pro.tif
macbook-pro.tif
MacBook Air

Search: This Mac All My Files

Kind is Image All

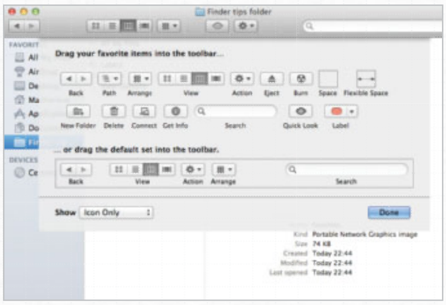
File Size is greater than 2 MB

Name contains macbook

Use smart folders

Change the way you search and access files

10 Smart folders are a special kind of folder that don't actually contain any files themselves, but instead contain the results of saved searches, providing access to the files therein. For example, you could set up a smart folder of all the photos on your Mac taken during the last month, of all the PDFs you have stored in various places, or of all documents containing the word 'invoice'. The files stay wherever you stored them, but this makes them easy to find with one click. To create a smart folder, go to File > New Smart Folder, or hit ⌘+⌥+N.


Finder tips folder
FAVORIT
All
Air
De
Ma
Ap
Do
Fi
DEVICES
Ce
Back
Path
Arrange
View
Action
Eject
Burn
Space
Flexible Space
New Folder
Delete
Connect
Get Info
Search
Quick Look
Label
Back
View
Action
Arrange
Search
Done

Drag your favorite items into the toolbar...

... or drag the default set into the toolbar.

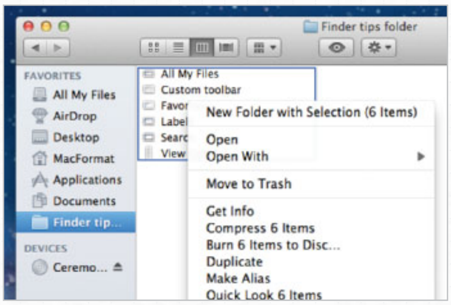
Show Icon Only

Kind Portable Network Graphics image
Size 74 KB
Created Today 22:44
Modified Today 22:44
Last opened Today 22:44

Customise toolbar

Arrange Finder's options to suit

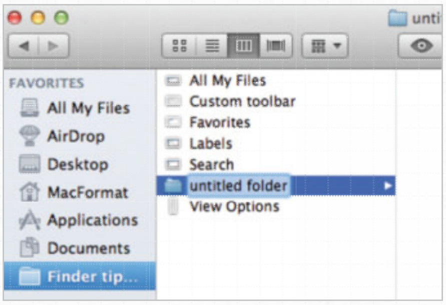
07 The toolbar at the top of the *Finder* window can be adjusted to suit the way you use your Mac. Just right-click it and choose 'Customize toolbar' and you'll see extra options you can drag in, such as a button to burn DVDs, connect to servers or create a new folder. You can even add apps or files you want quick access to by dragging them onto it, so they can be accessed with a single click in the future. To remove them, simply hold ⌘ and drag them out of the window.


Finder tips folder
FAVORITES
All My Files
AirDrop
Desktop
MacFormat
Applications
Documents
Finder tip...
DEVICES
Ceremo...
All My Files
Custom toolbar
Favor
Label
Searc
View
New Folder with Selection (6 Items)
Open
Open With
Move to Trash
Get Info
Compress 6 Items
Burn 6 Items to Disc...
Duplicate
Make Alias
Quick Look 6 Items

Use folders

Keep yourself organised

08 Keeping yourself smart and organised with a good system of folders can seem like a hassle, but it's really worth doing. Plus, it's not that difficult or fiddly to do at all. You can right-click in any folder and choose New Folder, and then drag and drop any files into it. If you have a bunch of loose files, though, there's an easier way. Select all the files you want to be in the new folder at the same time by holding ⌘ and clicking them, then right-click and choose New Folder from Selection.


unti
FAVORITES
All My Files
AirDrop
Desktop
MacFormat
Applications
Documents
Finder tip...
All My Files
Custom toolbar
Favorites
Labels
Search
untitled folder
View Options

Keyboard shortcuts

Quickly perform simple tasks

09 Once you're comfortable using *Finder's* features, you can speed things up by learning keyboard shortcuts for many simple tasks. You can open a new *Finder* window with ⌘+N, for example, or close a window with ⌘+W. To create a new folder, hit ⇧+⌘+N, or to delete something, hit ⌘+⌫. You can rename a selected item by hitting ↩ and then typing the new name, and we've already talked about hitting the spacebar for Quick Look. Undo any mistakes, such as moving a file to the wrong place, with ⌘+Z.

iPad... SOS

Words: Craig Grannell **Illustration:** TheBoyFitzHammond

Apple hardware is famed for its ease of use and reliability, but iPads aren't immune to problems. Here's our handy guide to fixing them…

We love the iPad. It's a bit like Apple distilled everything that was great about the iPhone and the Mac into a convenient, shiny, handheld device, pausing only briefly to lightly spray its glossy tablet with unicorn tears. Well, that's what we feel like when it's working. When it's not, we have to be physically restrained from hurling our iPad out of the window, like an insanely expensive flying disc, while yelling "Now can you access the Wi-Fi?" and laughing like a crazy person.

And Wi-Fi connectivity isn't the only problem you can get with an iPad. There are issues with backing up and syncing, oddball ghost apps, seemingly random jerky performance, and more. The problem, perhaps, is that people look at Apple's iOS devices and see something sleek and simple; they forget that an iPad is a computer.

To be fair, our experience with the iPad has shown it to be at least 99% unicorn and only a tiny amount potential projectile, but when things go wrong it can be frustrating. And that's why we've created this guide, to help you deal with both common and rare iPad problems, making it far less likely that you'll at one point have to sheepishly fish your device out of next door's tree. »

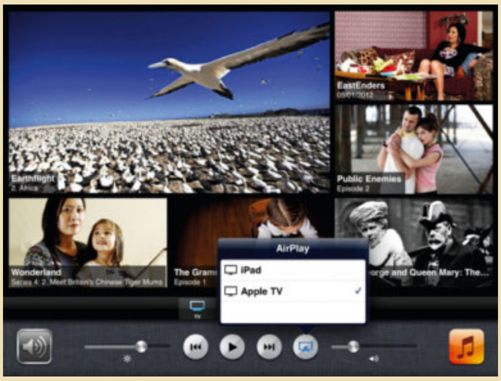
iSmoke signals
HMS MACFORMAT
HELP!

HOW TO / Get the best from AirPlay

AirPlay enables you to wirelessly stream video and audio from an iOS device to an AirPlay-enabled unit, like the Apple TV or an AirPlay speaker system. This means you can often do away with wires and get more use from your Apple TV. Along with what's available via the Apple TV itself, you can stream from many iOS video apps, such as BBC iPlayer. If you've video files that aren't compatible with *iTunes*, you can use AirVideo or StreamToMe servers and apps to send video to your iPad, which can be streamed to your Apple TV using AirPlay.

But setting up AirPlay isn't always straightforward. It's on by default on the Apple TV (which you can change in the Settings menu), and most apps include an AirPlay button (a rectangle with an upwards-facing triangle) in the standard playback controls. Tap and select a target (such as 'Apple TV') to stream media. But some apps – like iPlayer – have proprietary playback controls, and so require you to use the global iOS AirPlay button: launch your app, double-click the home button and slide the app-switcher to the right; tap the AirPlay button to select a target, then return to your app.

Note, some apps don't support AirPlay, or will block it, showing a notice on your TV. A few of these work with Apple's AV cables, assuming your TV has the right inputs – check App Store descriptions for details.



The global AirPlay control is 'hidden' in the multitasking bar, and it enables you to send iPlayer video to your Apple TV.

Craig Grannell's iPad
620 apps

Syncing issues aren't exactly an alien occurrence inside iTunes.

My new app won't sync

Sometimes you'll buy a new and exciting app or game in *iTunes* and it won't sync to your iPad. When this happens, first ensure you're running the most up-to-date version of iOS for your device. Some publishers are remarkably aggressive in forcing upgrades, including Apple, which demands you install iOS 5 for its *iWork* apps. Games developers also often support only relatively recent versions of iOS.

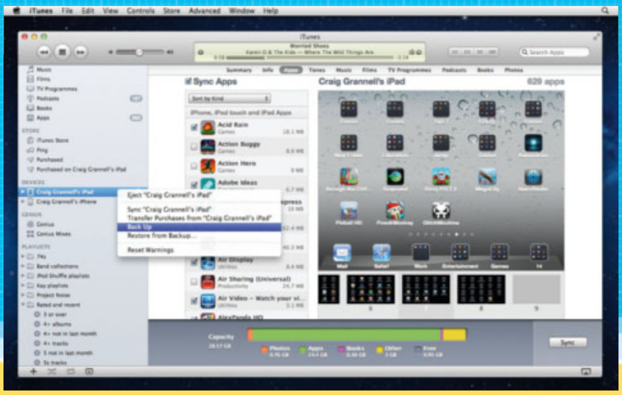
If you see errors in *iTunes* after a sync, or incomplete apps during a Wi-Fi sync (dimmed, with a blank progress bar), it may also be down to a lack of free space. Even if you think you've enough room on your iPad for a new purchase, that might not be so: iOS apps are compressed files, but expand during installation. Games in particular can balloon in size – we've seen 400MB downloads become over 1GB installed. If a large app won't install, try deleting a few similarly large apps and see if that helps. (You can always back up data – see 'Access all app data'.)

How do I safeguard my data from harm?

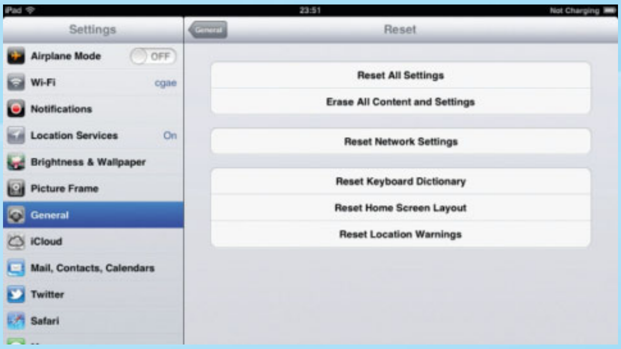
People worry about their Mac data, and the sensible ones regularly back it up, in case their Mac keels over. With a mobile device like an iPad, it's even more important to ensure you have backups of your documents, music, photos and so on, in case your device is mislaid, stolen or merely damaged.

Under iOS 5, there are essentially two ways of backing up data. The first is to use iCloud, which stores app and personal data, but not media files from your Mac – those can be restored from *iTunes*. To start a backup of this kind, select iCloud in the *Settings* app and under Storage & Backup, turn iCloud Backup on. This kind of backup can take a long time, depending on what's stored on your device. If you later need to restore from a backup, you can do so by tapping 'Restore from iCloud Backup' on the device setup screen.

The other option is to stick with backing up to *iTunes* during a sync. But if you do so over Wi-Fi, *iTunes* only appears to take a backup the first time you sync, unless you restart the app. The Devices section of *iTunes*' preferences will detail your most recent backup. If it's distant, force a backup by ctrl-clicking your device in the sidebar and selecting Back Up.


Sync Apps
Craig Grannell's iPad
620 apps
Eject "Craig Grannell's iPad"
Sync "Craig Grannell's iPad"
Transfer Purchases from "Craig Grannell's iPad"
Back Up
Restore from Backup...
Reset Warnings

Back up your iPad's synced data to prevent a catastrophic loss of your stuff.


iPad
23:51
Not Charging
Settings
Airplane Mode
OFF
Wi-Fi
cgae
Notifications
Location Services
On
Brightness & Wallpaper
Picture Frame
General
iCloud
Mail, Contacts, Calendars
Twitter
Safari
General
Reset
Reset All Settings
Erase All Content and Settings
Reset Network Settings
Reset Keyboard Dictionary
Reset Home Screen Layout
Reset Location Warnings

There could be many reasons why your iPad isn't able to connect wirelessly.

I can't access Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi is always tough to troubleshoot whatever the device, because there are many variables. What we'll do here is list common problems and solutions. First, see if your iPad can pick up the network when next to your router; if so, your settings are fine but your router needs to sit in a more optimal location (at average table height and away from walls).

Should the range be fine, check other devices. If they're not on the network, restart your router. If other devices are fine, toggle Airplane Mode in the *Settings* app, which will force the iPad to try reconnecting. Should that not work, select the network in the Wi-Fi section of *Settings* (tap the right-facing arrow) and tap Renew Lease.

If these tips fail, select 'Forget this Network' in the same pane, hard-reset the iPad, then re-enter your network settings. And if that doesn't work, in *Settings* go to General > Reset, and tap 'Reset Network Settings' and re-enter your details in the Wi-Fi section.

My iPad's not charging

If you own a smaller iOS device, such as an iPhone or an iPod touch, chances are you sometimes charge it by connecting it to your Mac or to a USB hub. If you do the same with your iPad, there's a possibility that it won't charge up, and you'll see the message 'Not Charging' on your iPad's screen. This is more often the case with older Macs, but we've also seen this with recent Macs that have a number of USB devices attached.

Instead, use your iPad's power adapter to charge it, either directly, or with your iPad sitting in an iPad dock. Alternatively, try connecting it to a Mac and sleeping the iPad; it will charge, but more slowly, and only when the computer is awake. If your iPad doesn't charge with the power adapter, ensure the dock connector isn't full of dust by using folded paper to clean it out.

Not Charging

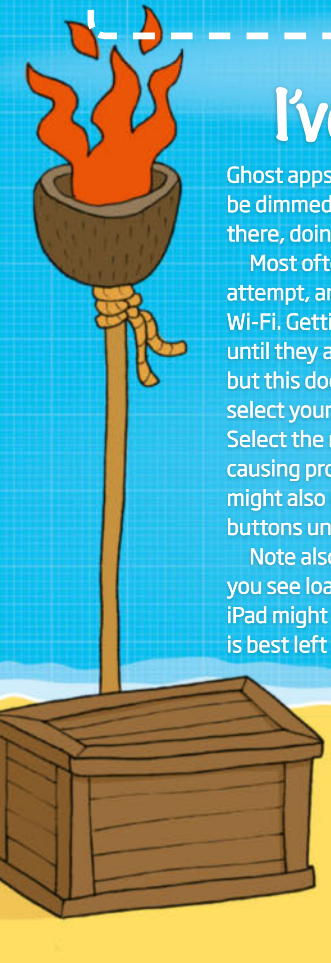
Some older MacBooks won't charge your iPad via their USB port. Watch for it!

I've got a ghost app

Ghost apps are rare but annoying. Their icons will usually be dimmed and when you try to launch an app, it'll just sit there, doing nothing.

Most often, ghost apps are the product of a busted sync attempt, and they're more common when syncing over Wi-Fi. Getting rid of one can be as easy as holding an icon until they all jiggle and prodding the relevant '–' button, but this doesn't always work. If that's the case for you, select your device in *iTunes* and access the Apps tab. Select the relevant home screen, delete the app that's causing problems, and click Apply to sync your device. You might also need to do a hard reset (press home + sleep buttons until the iPad restarts).

Note also that syncing over Wi-Fi takes time, and so if you see loads of dimmed apps with progress bars, your iPad might be working its way through a major update and is best left alone until it's done.

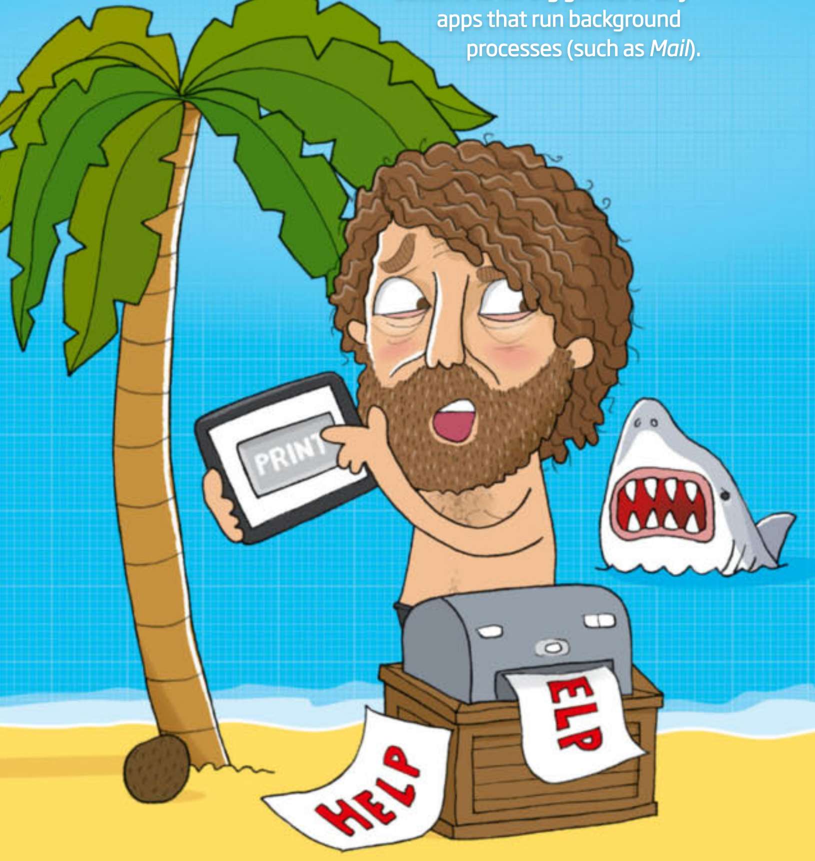


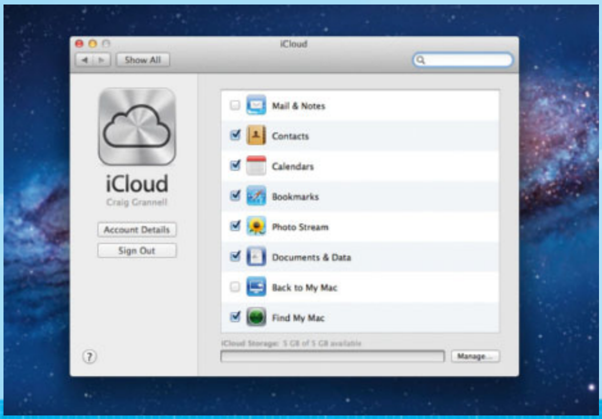
iPad slowing to a crawl? Time to kill some apps running in the background.

My iPad feels sluggish

One of the remarkable things about the iPad and iOS is how fluid and responsive everything feels – and so it's very obvious if your device suddenly becomes sluggish. You might notice juddering scrolling or animations; in extreme cases, large apps like games will crash on startup. Typically, this is down to iOS memory management going temporarily bonkers.

In theory, background apps should be suspended, and memory freed up for the active app, but on rare occasions this goes wrong. The quickest solution is a hard reset – hold home and sleep until your iPad restarts. However, you can sometimes get your device running smoothly again by double-clicking the home button, holding an app in the multitasking tray until they all jiggle, and tapping the '–' buttons to kill big games or any apps that run background processes (such as *Mail*).





☐ Mail & Notes
☑ Contacts
☑ Calendars
☑ Bookmarks
☑ Photo Stream
☑ Documents & Data
☐ Back to My Mac
☑ Find My Mac

iCloud Storage: 5 GB of 5 GB available

Ensure you're using the correct iCloud account details on your iPad.

iCloud won't sync

A major component of iOS 5 is iCloud, a system that provides behind-the-scenes synchronisation of important content, such as calendars and bookmarks. If an item doesn't sync immediately, don't worry – iCloud isn't instantaneous. However, if nothing syncs, ensure you're using the same account details on your iPad, Mac and other devices. If needs be, delete all account settings and enter them from scratch. Also, ensure you've not disabled sharing on your iPad (iCloud in the *Settings* app) or Mac (iCloud in *System Preferences*, and also Accounts > Account Information in *iCal*).

Another syncing problem can involve duplicated data. A fix to stop this is ensuring everything is unchecked in the Info tab when selecting your iPad in *iTunes*. When upgrading to iOS 5, you may also find device content merges with that from your Mac. Just wait for the process to complete and delete any duplicate content.

I can't print anything

If you've truly caught the iPad bug and want to do some real work on it, it's probable that you'll at some point need to print documents. The AirPrint feature is Apple's means of doing so – a driverless system that works like magic. The only snag: for it to do said magic, you need a compatible printer, or your iOS device will sadly declare: "No AirPrint Printers Found". The simplest solution is therefore a printer upgrade – Apple provides an AirPrint compatibility list at **http://support.apple.com/kb/ht4356**.

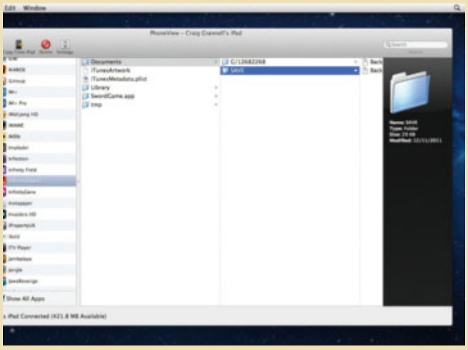
But if you don't have money to burn on a new printer, there is a workaround. Install *Printopia* ($20, **www.ecamm.com/mac/printopia**), activate it via *System Preferences*, and select the printers you'd like to share with AirPrint-enabled units (such as your iPad and other iOS devices). Once you've done this, your selected printers will appear in the standard iOS print dialog. While $20 isn't free, it's a lot less than buying a brand-new printer!

HOW TO / Access all app data

Some apps enable you to access documents using *iTunes*. You do so by selecting your device in the *iTunes* sidebar, choosing the Apps tab, and scrolling down to File Sharing. Select an app and you can add and save documents. The problem is the process is clunky and doesn't work for every app. It's also no good if something goes wrong with your device (so *iTunes* can't see it) and you need to rescue data.

In this scenario, two apps can help: *iExplorer* (free, **www.macroplant.com/iexplorer**) and *PhoneView* ($20/£13, **www.ecamm.com/mac/phoneview**). Both enable you to explore your device much like a hard drive. This means you can grab voice memos, photos that didn't sync properly, music and other media. In *iExplorer*, this content is found in the Media folder; *PhoneView* has a more intuitive interface, where you select media and data types from the sidebar.

Both apps also provide access to the Documents and Library directories of individual apps (*iExplorer* through its Apps list; *PhoneView* through Apps > Show All Apps). Copy these directories to your Mac and they can later be reinstated.



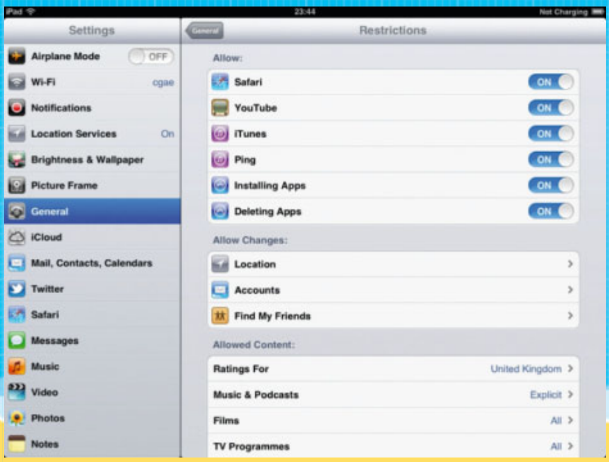
PhoneView enables you to get inside individual iOS apps and save their data (such as game progress files) to your Mac.

The App Store app has completely vanished!

The App Store app has vanished! With much of the iPad's shiny goodness tied up in grabbing new games and apps, this is a disaster. And with Apple making it easier than ever to 'detach' your iPad from your Mac, it's a double disaster!

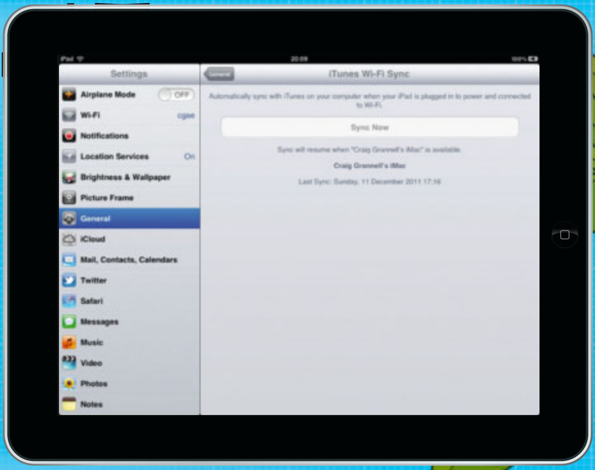
But wait! This problem can be rapidly resolved in one of two ways. First, if your iPad is stuffed to the gills, with all 11 pages full of apps, you might have accidentally bumped the App Store app into the 'void' – that mysterious place past the last page. To check, press the home button a couple of times and use Spotlight to search for 'App Store'. If it's there, you can use *iTunes* to rearrange your icons and put the App Store somewhere more accessible. If the App Store isn't found in Spotlight, open *Settings* and go to General > Restrictions, and ensure 'Installing Apps' isn't turned off. (This section also has controls that stop apps being deleted.)

If these options don't work, you might have a problem from a broken sync. Do a hard reset (home + sleep until the iPad restarts), and sync from *iTunes*. As a last resort, restore from your last good backup.


iPad
23:44
Not Charging
Settings
Airplane Mode OFF
Wi-Fi ogae
Notifications
Location Services On
Brightness & Wallpaper
Picture Frame
General
iCloud
Mail, Contacts, Calendars
Twitter
Safari
Messages
Music
Video
Photos
Notes
General
Restrictions

Allow:
Safari ON
YouTube ON
iTunes ON
Ping ON
Installing Apps ON
Deleting Apps ON
Allow Changes:
Location
Accounts
Find My Friends
Allowed Content:
Ratings For United Kingdom
Music & Podcasts Explicit
Films All
TV Programmes All

Ensure the 'Installing Apps' option is 'On' otherwise the App Store won't work.


iPad
20:09
100%
Settings
Airplane Mode OFF
Wi-Fi cgae
Notifications
Location Services On
Brightness & Wallpaper
Picture Frame
General
iCloud
Mail, Contacts, Calendars
Twitter
Safari
Messages
Music
Video
Photos
Notes
General
iTunes Wi-Fi Sync
Sync Now

Automatically sync with iTunes on your computer when your iPad is plugged in to power and connected to Wi-Fi.

Sync will resume when "Craig Grannell's iMac" is available.

Craig Grannell's iMac

Last Sync: Sunday, 11 December 2011 17:16

There are nifty tricks to help find a disappeared iPad in your iTunes sidebar.

My iPad's vanished from iTunes

The ability to sync over Wi-Fi in iOS 5 is a big advantage – right up until the point when it doesn't work. Sometimes, your iPad will vanish from the *iTunes* sidebar, and the 'Sync Now' button in General > iTunes Wi-Fi Sync will be greyed out. We've had this happen a bunch of times, and the usual culprit is either the Mac or the iPad briefly losing its network connection. Quite often, you can simply toggle Wi-Fi on the iPad (by turning Airplane Mode off and on in the *Settings* app) and/or the Mac (using the menu-bar Wi-Fi icon) and everything will start working again. On the Mac side, *iTunes* might need restarting. If that doesn't work, you might need to restart the iPad and also the Mac, but that's rarely the case. Alternatively, we've found plugging the iPad into the Mac using a cable gets everything back into gear – but who uses wires these days? ●

Q&A

MEET YOUR Q&A EXPERT

Whatever your Mac-related problem, from misbehaving MacBooks to withering wireless, Luis Villazon can help.

HINTS & TIPS • TROUBLESHOOTING • EXPERT ADVICE • ESSENTIAL INFO

ASK LUIS A QUESTION

Got a problem with your Mac? Then why not send your queries to Luis at **macformat.helpline@futurenet.com** and see if he can help.

"Network sharing and printing made uneasy…"

Q I have a Compaq Laptop running Windows XP, connected by Ethernet to a BT Home Hub 2.0. The PC is also connected via USB to a printer. In another room, I have an iMac, which connects wirelessly to the Home Hub. All of this works well with the mini network except the USB port on the Hub does not support a printer. This means I cannot print from my iMac. I can 'see' the iMac from my PC but I can't 'see' my PC from the iMac.

Whenever I try to connect via the Sharing tab in *Finder*, the iMac 'sees' the PC and asks for the PC's name and password. Whatever name and password I enter for the PC, the iMac does not recognise it. I'm using the administrator password.
Alan Wormwell

A The USB port on the Home Hub 2.0 doesn't actually do anything – well, at least not officially, anyway. Some brands of flash drive and printer have been found to work and the port is definitely powered, so you can use it to charge an iPhone or iPod, but that's about it.

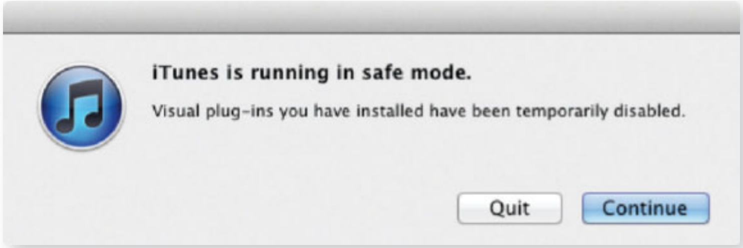
The easiest way to share your printer is to use an AirPort Express. You simply plug this into the wall and connect it to your printer with a USB cable and to your Home Hub with an Ethernet cable. Then you disable Wi-Fi on the Home Hub and connect both the PC and the iMac to the wireless network that is broadcast by the Airport Express instead. The AirPort Express is £79, which is about £50 more than similar third-party Wi-Fi print servers. They will probably all work perfectly well, but some of them might be a little more fiddly than others to set up.

Apple changed the implementation of the SMB network protocol in Lion and this is currently causing problems for some people when they try to connect via *Finder*, because it ignores whatever login details you type in and sends your Mac username and password instead. One obvious work-around would be to create a new login on the PC that matches the one on the Mac. Alternatively, you can log in using the command-line interface. Open up *Terminal* and type:

```
/sbin/mount_smbfs //username@servername/sharename mountpoint.
```

Replace username with the login name, as it appears on the Windows login screen; replace servername with the IP address of the Windows PC; sharename is the name of the shared folder on the Windows PC and mountpoint is the name you want to use for this shared folder on the Mac.

The AirPort Express will let you share any USB printer over a wireless network.



iTunes is running in safe mode.

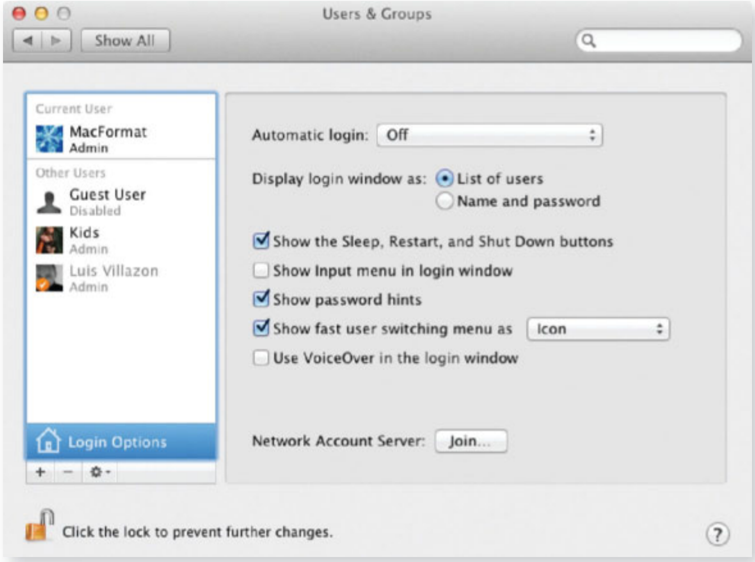
Visual plug-ins you have installed have been temporarily disabled.

Safe Mode omits third-party add-ons, so you can tell if iTunes is to blame for those crashes.

"The new iTunes won't sync. What shall I do?"

Q About three weeks ago I moved to iCloud. All seemed to work between my 2009 iMac and 2008 MacBook, and I was able to sync *iCal*, *Contacts* and *Safari* bookmarks to my iPod touch with *iTunes 9*. Then I received an email with instructions on how to move from MobileMe to iCloud. I backed up my *Address Book*, *iCal* and bookmarks, upgraded *iTunes* to 10.5.1 and proceeded to http://me.com/move on both my computers. However, on www.icloud.com there were no *iCal* entries and my contacts bore no resemblance to those on my Macs. I was also unable to get my iPod to sync with my computers using *iTunes*. It took an hour at the Mac Genius Bar to get my computers in sync with iCloud and each other.

I am now left with a first-gen iPod touch that, because it will not accept iOS 5, cannot sync using iCloud and is unable to sync using *iTunes*. I can still use my mail and sync my photos. Does *iTunes 10.5.1* no longer support my iPod?
William J Pryn



Users & Groups

Current User
MacFormat
Admin

Other Users
Guest User
Disabled
Kids
Admin
Luis Villazon
Admin

Login Options

Automatic login: Off

Display login window as: ● List of users ○ Name and password

☑ Show the Sleep, Restart, and Shut Down buttons

☐ Show Input menu in login window

☑ Show password hints

☑ Show fast user switching menu as Icon

☐ Use VoiceOver in the login window

Network Account Server: Join...

Click the lock to prevent further changes.

Hiding your username is a good way to save space if your menu bar is getting crowded.

A Try starting *iTunes* in safe mode. Hold ⌘+⌥ when you click on the *iTunes* icon, and you'll load it without any visual plug-ins. If you have any installed, they can break when a new version of *iTunes* comes out and sometimes this will prevent *iTunes* from syncing. If safe mode allows you to sync again, visit the websites for each of your plug-ins to download versions compatible with the current *iTunes* release.

"Writing to NTFS drives on Snow Leopard or Lion"

Q How can I use NTFS drives on Snow Leopard or Lion? I installed MacFUSE but it's still showing the drive as Read Only.
Liberato M

A MacFUSE, by itself, won't do anything. It's just a collection of libraries that provides an API for developers to create filing system translators. OS X can read NTFS-formatted volumes natively, but to write to them you need the NTFS-3G driver that works with MacFUSE. Download it from http://macntfs-3g.blogspot.com. However, MacFUSE isn't supported on Lion now and NTFS-3G doesn't work in Snow Leopard on a 64-bit kernel. This could be because the developers want you to buy the £21 commercial version, Tuxera NTFS (www.tuxera.com).

"How can I declutter my menu bar?"

Q I run a Mac mini with Snow Leopard and a 17-inch monitor and find I need to lower the resolution to 1024x768 to be comfortable. The downside of this is that while running nearly all apps except *Finder*, there is not enough space on the menu bar to reveal all of my menu bar apps, despite a lot of pruning. To access some of them, while running say a browser, I have to click on *Finder* in the Dock, which reveals the menu bar apps, but also opens the *Finder* unnecessarily. Are there any ways to get around this?
Mike Wallbridge

A If you use fast user switching and have your login name on the menu bar, save space by opening Users & Groups preferences, clicking Login Options and setting Show fast user switching menu as to Icon.

Most apps that put a status icon on the menu bar have an option to hide it, but it sounds like you have already done this for as many as possible. If that still doesn't leave you enough space, there isn't much more you can do. The size of the menu font is hard coded into OS X and any hacks that interfere with this could trigger kernel panics. Increasing the screen resolution or your monitor size will get you more space on the menu bar.

»

Fusing OS X and iOS

Ian Osborne

Obviously, Macs and iOS devices play very nicely together. Since the release of iOS 5, you no longer need a computer to run an iPhone, iPad or iPod touch, but they're still useful for on-site backups, syncing and more. Yet the fusion of Macs and iOS goes far beyond syncing and backing up. If you have both a Mac and an iOS device, there's a range of third-party applications to help you get the most from them.

Air Video (**http://bit.ly/yxjvaP**) streams videos from your Mac to your iPad, iPhone or iPod touch over your local network. There's no need to copy them to your iOS device before viewing. It can even convert otherwise-incompatible file formats on the fly, so if your Mac is fast enough, you still get an unbroken streaming experience.

With *Air Display* (**http://bit.ly/wqokbb**), you can turn your iOS device into a second monitor for your Mac. It connects to your Mac wirelessly and supports both 32- and 64-bit systems. If your screen is getting cluttered, it's great to move menus and toolbars onto your iPad to give you more room on your display.

Typing texts on your iPhone can be a chore. Luckily, *Type2Phone* (**http://bit.ly/zJhL7V**) lets you use your Mac's keyboard to type on an iOS device. Just pair it with your Mac, and you can type directly to the mobile device, or even cut and paste text directly from your Mac. Just the thing for transferring long notes to your iPad.

> *"The fusion of Macs and iOS goes beyond syncing and back-up and there are apps to help you get the most out of it"*

With Orbicule's *Witness* (**http://bit.ly/yoEwn4**) you can turn your Mac into a home alarm system. Your webcam becomes a motion-detecting security camera, which takes pictures and videos of an intruder, and you can review the captured footage and manage your alarm directly from your iOS device.

If your printer isn't AirPrint compatible, you can still print from your iOS device using *Printopia 2 for Mac* (**http://bit.ly/zgtEri**). With the app running, any printer connected to your Mac shows up on your iPhone, iPad or iPod touch. *Printopia* can save files to your Mac or your Dropbox account too. And talking of Dropbox (**www.dropbox.com**), this popular cloud-sharing service has an iOS app as well as a Mac client, so you can share files between your computers and your iOS devices. It's a great way of saving PDFs to your iPad for reading in *iBook*. ●

MacFormat's Reviews Editor Ian Osborne interacts with his Macs and iOS devices so well, that he has persuaded them to make dinner for him every night in exchange for glowing reviews.

»QUICK TIP

If you have spring-loaded folders enabled in the *Finder* preferences, folders will pop open after a short delay when you drag over them. If you hit space bar while dragging them, they will open up immediately for you.

"Big trouble importing my messages to Lion"

Q **After installing Lion on my iMac, *Mail* was imported. After the 'transferring data' message, I saw this message: 'An error occurred during upgrading. Click Continue to start the Mail Import Assistant, who will assist to establish a new library and import your message'.**

I then had another message: 'The index in *Mail* is damaged. You can repair it by closing *Mail*. *Mail* will repair the index next time you open *Mail*. Mailboxes and messages are not influenced'.

Starting *Mail* only results in the same messages. I have relaunched Lion in various modes, but I get the same problem again and again.

Bo Wingård, Norway

A This is caused by either a corrupted index file or a corrupted smart mailbox. The screenshots you sent me include a huge list of Envelope Index files, where there should only be one, so let's start there. Quit *Mail* and drag them all out of ~/Library/Mail/V2 (or /V2/MailData) to a temporary folder on the desktop. Restart *Mail* and it should rebuild just a single Envelope Index file. If that works, you can delete all those other envelope indexes. If you still get the same error, it may be that the multiple envelope indexes were a symptom of a corrupted smart mailbox. Delete or move smartmailbox.plist and smartmailbox.plist.backup and restart *Mail*. You will need to recreate your smart mailbox rules, but *Mail* should open properly now.

"BT Broadband: what's in a gigabyte?"

Q **With respect to your answer given in the Christmas issue (MF242) to Roger Winterton, depending upon the ISP giving a 10Gb limit, if it's BT broadband you can easily go over your limit due to their accounting methods. As far as I can see this is measured in Gbits not Gbytes, therefore providing an eightfold reduction in limits.**

I asked BT for confirmation of how they calculate limits but this cannot be provided. Perhaps you can check this out or at least provide a warning to others who may be opting for BT.

Graham Ogg

A BT Broadband's website makes it quite clear that GB means gigabytes, not gigabits. To see for yourself, visit: http://bit.ly/qCgRmp. So, if they are capping you at 1.25GB instead of 10, they are in breach of contract. However, I'm pretty sure they aren't. The confusion comes from the fact that broadband *speeds* are commonly measured in gigabits, whereas the amount of data you can download or upload each month is measured in gigabytes. There are reasons why, but they aren't very good ones.

Roger's question was about Photo Stream swallowing up his broadband ration by uploading photos automatically. You can turn Photo Stream off, but I still maintain that it won't actually make a big dent in a 10GB limit.

"Just how easy is it to back up to Linkstation?"

Q **In *MF242* you said that *Time Machine* won't back up over a network to a Buffalo Linkstation without any fancy trickery. This isn't so - I set up *Time Machine* to back up to my Buffalo Linkstation with no problems at all. When**

»MACFIXIT TIPS / Memory-cleaning utilities: not the panacea they claim to be

There's no shortage of apps that promise to boost your computer's performance by clearing its memory. But think twice before taking their claims at face value.

Your computer's RAM is a fast, temporary workspace for tasks. If your Mac slows down, you should check whether your system is running low on memory.

Clean slate

The system continuously manages and optimises memory by writing unused contents to disk. When you run low on memory, though, this process may encroach on active computing tasks, which will significantly slow them down.

So if your system begins to slow down, freeing up RAM can speed things up. Do this by quitting programs and closing open files. But there are also third-party memory-cleaning tools that claim to clean up your memory, such as *MemoryFree 2, iCleanMemory, FreeMemory, MemoryFreer, Memory Cleaner, Memory Cleaner Pro, MemoryScope, FreeMemory Pro, Flush Memory*, and so on (there are many, available via Download.com or the Mac App Store).

These tools feature a simple interface dominated by a button marked "Clean" or similar. Click it and your system will slow down for a few moments. Afterward, your *Activity Monitor* typically shows a larger green segment in its memory-usage pie chart. The problem is solved!

The big squeeze

Except, not really. While this technically means the system now has more free memory - which to most people suggests the system now has more memory to use - most of the time this is not the case.

In OS X, the system manages a program's RAM. When a program loads and performs its functions, it will ask the OS to reserve RAM space for active use - not all of which the program needs right away. As a result, there is room for the program to reduce its memory footprint and still work in a more constrained workspace if the demand for system memory increases.

Generally, as you load more programs, the system will transfer more program data from RAM to the hard drive, thereby freeing up RAM for use elsewhere. Cleaner programs exploit this behaviour. They typically start a routine that imposes a high RAM demand on the system, which forces the OS to signal other programs to free up memory and to write as much unused data as it can to the hard drive. After the cleaner program grabs as much memory as it can from the system, it then relinquishes the memory it's been using.

This process technically frees up RAM, in the sense that squeezing a sponge down on a flat surface frees up water-absorbing capability. Release the sponge, and it will start soaking

setting up *Time Machine*, you simply point it to the drive on the network and everything works just fine. I'm using a MacBook with Snow Leopard and a Linkstation Live. Network backup as standard in *Time Machine* is a big advantage over Windows 7, which only allows backup to network drives if you get Windows 7 Professional (it worked in Vista Home Premium, but not in Windows 7 Home Premium).
Chris Gooch

A If you look back, what I actually said was "it's possible to trick *Time Machine* into recognising a Linkstation as a valid backup location but whether you want to will depend on how much of a tinkerer you are".

If you have set it up on your network without incident, then congratulations to you, but it really isn't that painless for everyone. It's possible, certainly, but it's not painless.

Have a search on http://forums.buffalotech.com for "Time Machine" and you'll see exactly what I'm talking about, here. Anyway, the fact remains that Apple does not support *Time Machine* on anything other than a directly connected external disk or a Time Capsule.

While other network drives are available, the Time Capsule is, by far, the simplest to set up for Time Machine.

"What is the best way to stream music and films?"

Q I would like to be able to listen to *iTunes* on my hi-fi/home cinema setup in another part of the house. I understand there are a few options available to me: Mac TV wirelessly, Airport Express, or connecting my TV to my Mac as a second monitor with a long connecting cable. I read in your August edition that it is possible to wirelessly connect my Mac to my iPad. If I were to connect my iPad to my TV with Apple's component AV cable, would I have access to *iTunes* and all of my music files? Which would be the most reliable and cost-effective option?
Phil Pepperel

A If you connect the iPad to your TV, you are simply mirroring the iPad display to the TV screen. You can't simultaneously share the Mac screen to the iPad using Air Display and then pass it through to the TV along the component cable; it's one or the other. In any case, Air Display is video-only, so it's not going to work for music. If you are only interested in streaming music, the Apple TV and AirPort Express do basically the same thing.

The AirPort Express is £20 cheaper and has an analogue phono output, in case your hi-fi doesn't support digital audio. It also works as a router and a print server. The Apple TV will let you receive video streams as well as audio. Whichever you choose, you'll be able to use your iPad as a remote with the *Tunes Remote* app.

»QUICK TIP

Select the Applications folder in Finder and click View > Show View Options. Set **Arrange By** to **Application Category**. Your apps will now be grouped under headings like 'Social Networking', 'Music' and 'Utilities'.

up the water again. Similarly, RAM that has been "squeezed" by a cleaner program will be free, but the programs rev back up, they'll start soaking it back up again.

Alternative solutions

So memory-freeing utilities are far from the panacea they claim to be. In most cases, you're probably better off either upgrading your system with more RAM, closing programs that use excessive amounts of memory, or updating buggy ones that are memory hogs (these programs can be found in *Activity Monitor* by sorting the process list by **Real Memory** used).

In some cases, these utilities have a negative impact on system performance by clearing the contents of "inactive" RAM. If you open *Activity Monitor* you'll see a segment of the memory pie chart that is labelled "inactive." This RAM still holds data, but isn't being used by any active process. If the system needs to load the data that is being stored in RAM, then all it needs to do is reactivate that memory instead of loading it from scratch.

Switch off

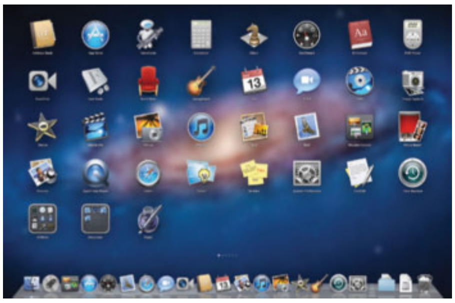
As an example of this, if you restart your system to clear memory and then launch a program, the program may take a few seconds to load; however, if you then quit the program and relaunch it will load much faster. This is because the system kept the program's contents in memory even though it was inactive, and reloading the program had the system merely reactivate memory instead of loading it all from the hard drive. As a result of this, if you use a memory-cleaning tool you will force the system to release all the inactive memory, and thereby require relaunched programs to potentially take longer to load.

Despite their shortcomings, memory-cleaning programs do have advantages. For instance, they can help identify programs with suspected memory leaks. If for the most part your programs use a small amount of memory but one or two suddenly use a large amount of RAM and will not relinquish it, then one possibility is that the program may have a "memory leak." This is where RAM is continually reserved but is never released by the program so its footprint grows and grows until there is no more RAM to use.

True memory leaks are sometimes hard to identify, but using a memory-squeezing tool can help by showing what programs are releasing memory and what ones are not. If a program with progressively increasing RAM usage refuses to release memory even when the RAM cleaner utility is run, then the program might have a memory leak.

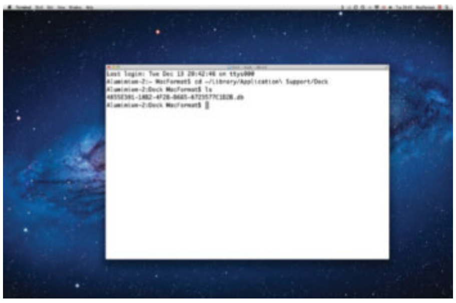
MacFixIt
Troubleshooting Solutions for the Macintosh
Tips supplied by MacFixit.com

HOW TO / Add and remove icons in Launchpad



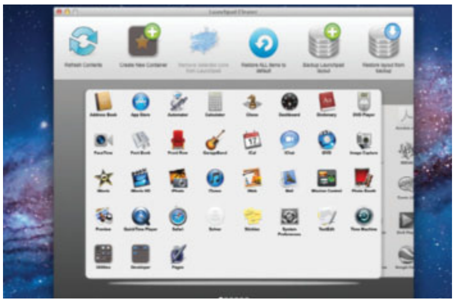
01 From the App Store

If you download something from the App Store, the icon appears in Launchpad and removing it uninstalls the app. But for other apps, Launchpad is just a shortcut icon. If an app doesn't add itself to Launchpad, drag the icon to the Launchpad icon in the Dock.



02 Manual delete

Removing icons from Launchpad isn't so easy. If the app wasn't downloaded from the App Store, the icon will just add itself back in. You can delete it from *Terminal* by typing **cd ~/Library/Application\ Support/Dock** and dragging the .db files to the trash.



03 An app for your apps

Alternatively, you can download *LaunchpadCleaner* from **http://zoltanb.co.uk/launchpadcleaner**. The free version lets you delete and rename icons from the first page. The pro version ($5) works on any page, and has backup and sorting options too. ●

QUICK TIP

You can drag a file or folder from a *Finder* window directly onto the *Finder* toolbar. This will let you open that file or jump to that folder from any *Finder* window. To remove them, hold ⌘ and drag the icon off.

Upgrading the processor or any component other than the RAM - is pretty much a non-starter.

"Should I upgrade the processor on my MacBook?"

Q I updated my iPod touch to iOS 5 as soon as it became available, and also signed up for iCloud. I then went to download Lion and complete the set, as it were, only to be met by a message telling me that the transaction could not be completed because I had the wrong processor. I bought my MacBook when it was first launched in the UK, and have regularly updated the system as far as Snow Leopard without problems, so this came as something of a surprise. I have an Intel Core Duo, but apparently need a second-generation version. Can I upgrade the processor, or will there, as a friend has suggested, be too great an incompatibility with the rest of the hardware?

Ian Hurdley

A The short answer is that you can't do it, but not for the reason you suggest. Your MacBook uses the Core Duo processor, while Lion requires a Core 2 Duo. The Core Duo is a 32-bit processor, based on the Enhanced Pentium M architecture that was only produced for laptops. The Core 2 Duo is an entirely different, 64-bit, architecture with desktop and laptop versions. It just happens to sound very similar because Intel likes to have an incredibly complex product family with hundreds of overlapping codenames, commercial names, architectures and feature sets.

But the first-gen Core 2 Duo actually uses the same processor socket as your Core Duo, so they are theoretically interchangeable. At least, they would be if you had an iMac. The processors on the MacBooks aren't socketed at all; they are soldered onto the motherboard. Removing a soldered CPU isn't feasible, even for a trained engineer. It's too easy to destroy the chip in the process. So you would need to replace the entire motherboard, at which point the upgrade isn't cost effective anymore and it's unlikely that a Core 2 Duo motherboard would fit in your MacBook case, even if you found a cheap one.

"I can't clean install using Recovery HD"

Q I'm a late-2011 MacBook Pro 13-inch user. Recently, I tried to perform a clean install of Lion using Recovery HD. However, when I clicked on 'Perform a clean install of Lion', a message appeared. It said that the installation information for my Mac was not found. I contacted the shop and got it in disk target mode and got the Mac working but, when I checked again, the problem was still there.

James Armstrong

A This sounds like a problem with the EFI 2.2 firmware, which is known to cause glitches with Lion installs. If you can boot your Mac into Snow Leopard still, you can update to 2.3 by following the instructions at http://support.apple.com/kb/ht1237. I would always perform a full backup to an external disk before upgrading the firmware. And if you can't even boot into Snow Leopard, you'll have to start in target disk mode again and back up the disk that way.

» MACFIXIT TIPS / How to resize the Finder column view in OS X

Finder in OS X has four views, **Icon**, **List**, **Cover Flow** and **Column**, which can be activated on any *Finder* window to display its contents in different ways. Each has its perks and uses, though many may often use column view because it shows multiple levels of a directory tree in the same window and can therefore help in organising and navigating files. While this feature makes navigating and moving files around a bit easier, often when you scroll up or down in column view, the column size will not change. This sometimes results in long file names being truncated or the column being too wide and taking up window space. To get around these drawbacks of the column view, Apple provides options for resizing the columns:

1. Dragging

The basic option for resizing columns in OS X is to click and drag the column separator (to the right of the column), which will expand or shrink it accordingly. However, this can be a bit of a burden if you need to expand multiple columns in a window. In addition to dragging one column, you can dynamically set all the columns to the same size by holding the ⌥ key when dragging one column separator.

2. Contextual menu options

If you right-click the column separator, you will see a contextual menu appear that contains three additional options for "Right-sizing" the column, which pertain to the current column, all columns equally, and all columns individually. These options will automatically adjust the columns to resize to the current content, all contents, or set them to be equal in size.

3. Double-clicking

The functions that are provided in the contextual menu can also be invoked by double-clicking the column with or without providing modifier key inputs. If you were to directly double-click the column separator then its column will be resized to fit its contents, but if you hold the ⌥ key while doing this, then all the columns in the window will be resized to fit their contents. Alternatively, if you hold down both the ⇧ and ⌥ keys at the same time, when double-clicking, then all of the columns will be set to the same size.

MacFixIt
Troubleshooting Solutions for the Macintosh
Tips supplied by MacFixit.com

"I can't get my printer to work wirelessly"

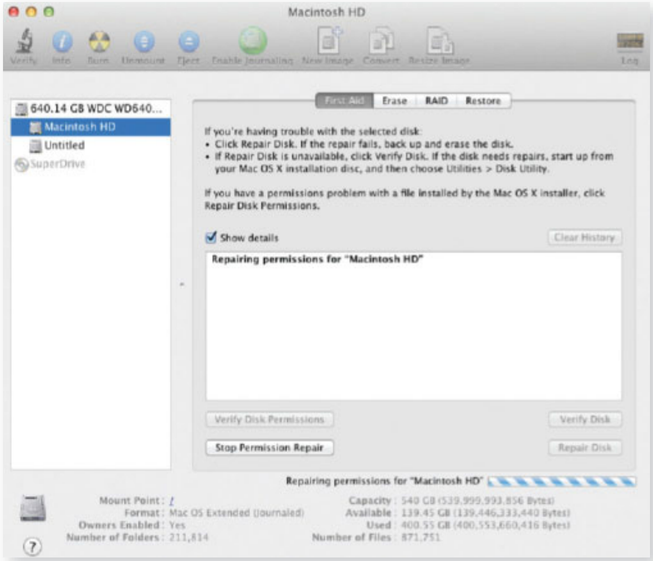
Q I recently bought a Kodak C310 printer. It works well with a USB connection, but I can't get it to work wirelessly. My network consists of an iMac and a MacBook, both connected wirelessly to a router connected to my TV. We get a good broadband connection on both computers. I followed the instructions and got to a 90% to 100% signal strength for my network on the printer's control panel. But it could not connect. The router has 'Virgin' and 'Netgear' on it and has no buttons on it. The printer is recognised by the system preferences.
Keith Grant

A Double-check the **Print & Scan** preferences lists the printer as using a Bonjour connection. If it doesn't, delete it and add it again. Now look at the network connection itself. Is the Wi-Fi status light on the printer blinking? If so, look for a model number on the router. The WGM124 is not compatible with your printer, so you'll need to contact Virgin and see if you can upgrade it. The WG102 needs a firmware upgrade from **http://kb.netgear.com/app**. For other models, use *Safari* to browse to the router configuration page (this will be at the network address of the router, which is **http://192.168.1.1** by default, for Netgear). Click the **Advanced Wireless** link and make sure that **Disable Advanced 108Mbps Features** is not selected and that RIP is set to V2.

If you're using WEP wireless security, enter the WEP key when you add the printer to the network. This isn't the passphrase you used to generate the WEP key, it's the WEP key itself. Find this on the **Wireless Settings** page of the router's configuration page, under **Security Encryption (WEP) Key**. If the printer's Wi-Fi light is on but you still can't connect, make sure the router isn't using MAC address filtering, SSID broadcasting is switched on and that DHCP is enabled.

"My Trash refuses to empty. What can I do?"

Q I use my Mac for photos, and periodically clean up by deleting the odd file. I now have six 'files' in the Trash that when I try to empty securely, will crop up and will not go. I've highlighted one file, went to Info and they are all 'Read Only'. There is no lock showing to either lock or unlock to change permissions. How can I give myself permission?
Bernard Minns



If you're having trouble with the selected disk:
- Click Repair Disk. If the repair fails, back up and erase the disk.
- If Repair Disk is unavailable, click Verify Disk. If the disk needs repairs, start up from your Mac OS X installation disc, and then choose Utilities > Disk Utility.

If you have a permissions problem with a file installed by the Mac OS X installer, click Repair Disk Permissions.

☑ Show details

Repairing permissions for "Macintosh HD"

Repairing permissions for "Macintosh HD"

Mount Point : /
Format : Mac OS Extended (Journaled)
Owners Enabled : Yes
Number of Folders : 211,814
Capacity : 540 GB (539,999,993,856 Bytes)
Available : 139.45 GB (139,446,333,440 Bytes)
Used : 400.55 GB (400,553,660,416 Bytes)
Number of Files : 871,751

Whenever files won't move, delete, run or rename, try repairing permissions.

A Go to Applications/Utilities/Disk Utility and click **Repair Disk Permissions**. Now do an ordinary emptying of the Trash (not a **Secure Empty**). If the files are still there, try moving them out of the Trash. If they move out correctly, try sending them back again and emptying. If they won't move out of Trash, open *Terminal* and type **sudo rm -rf ~/.Trash/***

If that doesn't get rid of them, it may be they aren't really there. Select all the files in trash then right-click and choosing **Get Info**. This can force *Finder* to re-evaluate what is there and phantom files can disappear. ●

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Reviews

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Ian Osborne
Reviews Editor

Thunderbolt peripherals have been slow in coming, especially considering the incredible benefits the new I/O protocol offers. But at long last, issue 239's Promise Pegasus RAID R6 is joined by another Thunderbolt storage solution – LaCie's new Little Big Disk series. Over on page 91, Alan Stonebridge takes a look at the top-of-the-range model, a 240GB device containing two solid-state drives set up in RAID 0 format. As SSDs come down in price over time, this is the format to watch for super-fast storage.

Talking of super-fast storage, Seagate's Momentus XT 2nd Gen hybrid drive brings much of the benefits of an SSD, without sacrificing capacity. By combining a hard drive with a sizable solid-state cache and onboard controllers, it gives super-fast startup times and quick access to your most-used data. Read all about it on page 88.

In the software section, Chris Brennan is very impressed with *MacJournal 6*, arguing: "It's an excellent tool and one that we can thoroughly recommend." Find out why on page 97.

» OUR LOGOS

A product that receives the MacFormat Choice award is the best in its class when reviewed.

Used in our Group Tests, MacFormat Winner indicates the product that we feel stands out.

This logo indicates there are either test versions or files associated with the review on the disc.

RATINGS EXPLAINED: ★★★★★ Excellent ★★★★☆ Very good ★★★☆☆ Good ★★☆☆☆ Adequate ★☆☆☆☆ Poor

» HYBRID DRIVE

Seagate Momentus XT 750GB, 2nd Generation

£229 A hybrid drive making the best of both worlds

Hybrid drives such as Seagate's Momentus XT range could bridge the gap between SSDs and HDDs.

KEY INFO

Manufacturer: Seagate Technology LLC www.seagate.com

SPECIFICATIONS

Capacity: 750GB **Form factor:** 2.5-inch **Solid-state memory:** 8GB **Speed:** 7,200rpm **Cache:** 32MB

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Fast startup times
- ⊕ No drivers required
- ⊕ Cost-effective capacity
- ⊖ No bundled accessories

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"Although not as speedy as a full SSD, this is a great alternative to a HDD."

Solid-state drives offer a considerable performance advantage over hard drives, but they cost a lot more. Replacing a MacBook Pro's hard drive with a similar-capacity SSD could cost as much as the notebook, while a smaller, more affordable model might leave you short of storage space.

Hybrid drives such as Seagate's Momentus XT are designed to resolve this dilemma. By combining a large solid-state memory cache with a regular hard drive, it offers a performance close to that of an SSD at a cost-per-GB that's more like a HDD. This second-generation Momentus XT is 750GB instead of 500GB, and the non-volatile cache is expanded to 8GB, up from 4GB. The SATA bus is now 6Gbps, and the hard drive speed remains at 7,200rps.

A bootable image resides on the flash memory, giving it much faster start-up times than a standard hard drive. In our tests, booting a clean Lion install on a 2011 MacBook Pro took less than 26 seconds, compared to 39 seconds using its factory-installed hard drive. The hybrid's random read/write scores of 20.433/47.228MB/s roundly trounced the original hard drive's 17.202/16.046MB/s too.

If you want to boost performance without sacrificing storage, a hybrid's the way to go. The Momentus XT is fast, capacious and value for money.

Ian Osborne

» DIGITAL NOTE TAKER

E-pens Mobile Note Digital Pen for Mac

£109 Convert handwritten notes to text

Turn your handwriting into editable text - as long as it's neat.

KEY INFO

Manufacturer: E-pens www.e-pens.com

SPECIFICATIONS

E-pen digital pen, base unit and six ink refills included **System req:** OS X 10.5 and later, 32MB RAM

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Good results
- ⊕ Works as a mouse
- ⊖ Lengthy setup
- ⊖ Takes time to get the hang of

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"As long as you adjust the way you write, this is a great way to note-take."

The idea of writing on a piece of paper for it then to appear on your Mac as ready-to-edit text is intriguing. That goes especially for anyone who has taken notes and had to type them up when they're next sat at their Mac.

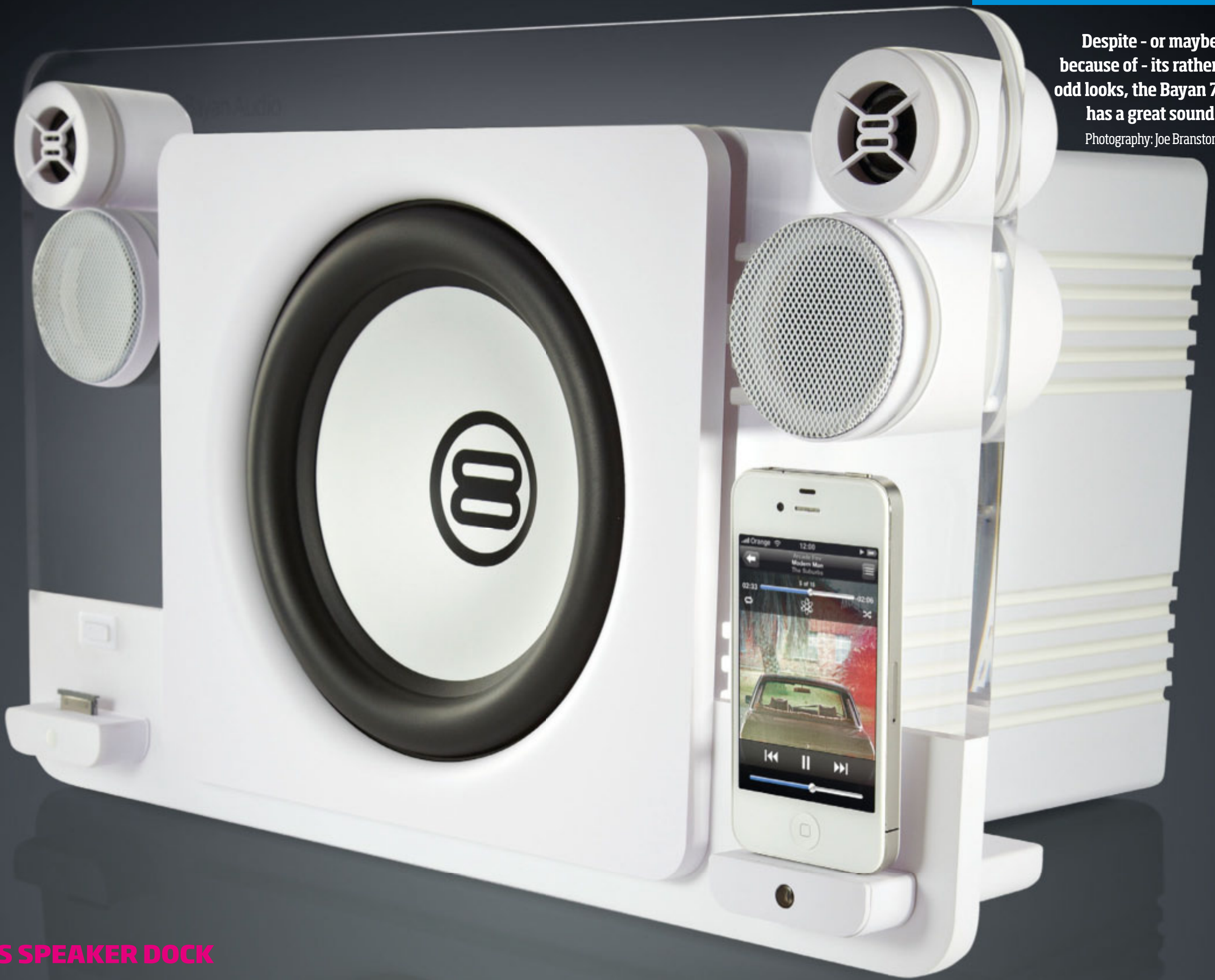
The E-pens Mobile Note Digital Pen for Mac isn't a unique product. But it has an advantage over one of its nearest competitors, the Livescribe Echo Smartpen, because it's able to use any piece of paper to record your handwritten notes. (The Livescribe Echo Smartpen needs you to write on specially marked paper.) This additional level of flexibility is achieved via a small receiver that attaches to the top of the sheet of paper you're writing on. If you want to use a flip notepad you'll have to turn the pad upside down to attach the receiver.

You need to install *NoteManager* and *MyScripts* from the included disc. Because there doesn't seem to be an easy way to install these programs from the E-pens website, it meant we had to use an external DVD drive to install it on our optical drive-less MacBook Air.

Initial results when we imported our notes were not that impressive, with some words being recognised, and others coming out as gibberish. It took practice on both sides to get better results. On our part we wrote more slowly and clearly, while the *MyScript* software created a profile to help it recognise our handwriting. Our second attempt was much more successful with only one error.

While the receiver is connected to your Mac you can also use it as a mouse. It takes a little getting used to, as you need to hover the pen over the pad, while pressing down on the paper replicates a mouse click. The Digtial Pen comes with a plastic 'fake' ink cartridge to use in these cases.

Matt Hanson



Despite - or maybe because of - its rather odd looks, the Bayan 7 has a great sound.

Photography: Joe Branston

>> iOS SPEAKER DOCK

Bayan Audio Bayan 7

£300 Can this very modern-looking, high-end speaker dock put in a 21st-century performance?

This curious-looking speaker dock looks more like an oven that slots into a wall than a high-end iOS speaker dock (a black version is also available). But on closer inspection, it soon reveals its true purpose. Set into its clear Perspex facia is a hefty bass sub-woofer that also acts as its stand. The rest of the sound is supplied by twin 5cm full-range speakers and two 2.5cm tweeters.

The Bayan 7 has two amplifiers, one for the bass and one for the middle and high-end sounds. Altogether, the five speakers deliver 120W of power, so it won't leave you short of volume. Its comprehensive collection of drivers also gives it a very wide frequency response.

Around the front there's two 30-pin dock connectors, which fit every compatible device except the iPad. You can charge an Apple tablet using the USB port on the back of the Bayan 7, and play its sounds by connecting the supplied 3.5mm AUX cable (which can also connect to your Mac or any audio device with a headphone socket). But you can't use the rather fussy remote's iPod controls when listening to an iPad.

The hand controller also lets you set the volume, adjust bass and treble independently and switch between Music Mode and Vocal Mode, which is well tuned for spoken word media such as audio books.

> *"The Bayan 7 looks more like an oven that slots into a wall than a high-end iOS speaker dock"*

Bayan 7 is suited for most genres of music, but if you like intense, room-shaking bass, it might not be for you. Although deep, rich and natural, its bottom end won't drown the mix even when turned up to maximum. Its excellent stereo separation belies the proximity of its speakers, though the sound isn't as three-dimensional as it might be. But where Bayan's high-end speaker dock really scores is in its crystal-clear reproduction.

The Bayan 7 is not a speaker dock that looks good in any room, but you can't fault the sound. Whether its rather idiosyncratic appearance is a good thing or a bad thing is very much a matter of taste.

Ian Osborne

KEY INFO

Manufacturer: Bayan Audio www.bayanaudio.com

SPECIFICATIONS

Drivers: 1x21cm, 2x5cm, 2x2.5cm **Output:** 120W **Freq response:** 30-47 kHz **Inputs:** 2x30-pin dock connectors, AUX **Dimensions:** 45x30x28cm **Weight:** 6.84kg

PROS & CONS

⊕ Warm, natural sound
⊕ Great value for money
⊕ Incredible detail
⊖ Heavy and bulky

VERDICT

★★★★½

"A great-sounding but curious-looking dock that makes your tunes sing."

»INTERNET MEDIA STREAMER

Iomega TV with Boxee

£215 Think Apple TV with less restrictions

Iomega TV with Boxee
iomega

The Iomega TV has flexibility, but it comes at a price.

KEY INFO

Manufacturer: Logitech
www.logitech.com

SPECIFICATIONS

Video up to 1080p HD, 802.11b/g/n Wi-Fi, Ethernet, 2x USB ports, HDMI, Composite video/audio, optical audio

PROS & CONS

⊕ Playback excellent
⊕ Huge format support
⊕ Practical remote
⊖ Interface not perfect

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"The price is the problem - you're better off with an Apple TV and a converter."

We know that the Apple TV represents terrific value for money – but only if you live your life through *iTunes*. For those of us who have photos and video outside of Apple's walled garden, an Apple TV alternative is a better bet. But often in the past, these streaming devices have been rather lacking in ease of use. We looked at the original D-Link Boxee Box back in *MF230*, and, while this Intel-powered Logitech box coped with all the media we could throw at it, there's still a major issue: price. There's no getting away from the fact it's twice the price of an Apple TV.

There are a few massive benefits with having a non-Apple box though. The first is support for 1080p HD video as well as a huge variety of formats (XviD for example), making converting files a thing of the past. The second is the support for a huge amount of third-party video content from the likes of TED and *The New York Times*. Third, and most crucially, is the ability to stream from devices such as network storage drives, and not just your Mac. There's also the ability to plug in and browse a USB hard drive containing video content you want to play. The box connects to your network via Wi-Fi or Ethernet, while there's HDMI, optical audio and composite plus two USB sockets front and back for connecting up devices.

Boxee devices are shipped with a remote that also has a QWERTY keyboard on the back. It's not the best, but it sure beats the Apple TV's stilted text input using the Apple Remote. The interface isn't as good as the Apple TV's and could be considered a bit buggy in places (a problem since the original Boxee devices), but what you get is the flexibility so lacking with Apple TV – if you're prepared to pay for it.

Dan Grabham

»DIGITAL RECORDER

Tascam iM2

£85 A digital recorder that's ideal for recording concerts, podcasts and more

TASCAM PCM Recorder
00h 04m 39s
Sharing
Files
TASCAM

The Tascam iM2 boasts astonishing audio quality.

KEY INFO

Manufacturer: Tascam/ TEAC Professional
www.tascam.co.uk

SPECIFICATIONS

Recording: 44.1kHz PCM
Mics: Variable angle stereo condenser; A/D converter and mic
Preamp: built-in **Weight:** 30g

PROS & CONS

⊕ Excellent stereo sound quality
⊕ Ideal for podcasts
⊖ Super-light with secure dock
⊖ Lacks a line input

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"Impossibly light and with great sound, but the iM2's not quite perfect just yet."

Tascam's built its reputation on providing high-quality recording equipment for musicians and videophiles, and now you can get a piece of the action with the compact, lightweight iM2. It's a digital recorder for iOS devices that plugs into the dock connector on the bottom of your iPhone 4, iPhone 4S, fourth-generation iPod touch, iPad or iPad 2.

On its own, it comprises a pair of high-quality stereo condenser mics with a built-in volume input dial and a limiter switch to reduce distortion. But it really comes into its own when you team it with its accompanying *PCMRecorder* app. This apes the controls on Tascam's range of pro-class audio recorders like the DR-08, giving you precise control over recordings, the ability to transfer recordings to *iTunes* or share them on SoundHound (http://bit.ly/9lFaAH).

Thanks to the high spec of its stereo mics and ability to record in CD quality (44.1kHz PCM), the sound recordings the iM2 makes are excellent no matter what you're trying to record. And you can angle the microphones backwards and forwards by 180-degrees to ensure they're always pointing at your subject.

The Tascam iM2 inevitably picks up any sounds your hands make while you're holding it; and you'll need to be careful when setting recording levels to avoid clipping/distortion, although the limiter can help.

There's also a lack of a line input, which ultimately stops the iM2 from being a great all-round recording machine.

Rob Mead-Green

More super-fast Thunderbolt hard drives will be released throughout 2012 .

Photography: Joe Branston

>> PORTABLE DATA STORAGE

LaCie Little Big Disk Thunderbolt Series 240GB SSD

£750 LaCie ramps up the performance stakes with a combined Thunderbolt and external SSD offering

The Thunderbolt version of LaCie's Little Big Disk comes in three varieties. Two of them contain hard disks, but this one packs solid-state drives. There are two inside, pre-configured as a striped RAID array for a total capacity of 240GB. Although that pales in comparison to the less costly hard disk models, the pairing of Thunderbolt with even faster storage is an exciting proposition.

LaCie quotes read speeds up to 480MB/s, around 290MB/s faster than the hard disk versions, and write speeds up to 245MB/s, which, although less jaw-dropping, is still a respectable boost of 55MB/s. Our tests revealed a pleasant surprise: LaCie's figures are too conservative.

It achieved 502.7MB/s when reading such files, and 256.7MB/s when writing them. Speeds tailed off for small files under 1MB, but the low of 24.2MB/s is respectable for them. However, the Little Big Disk is really aimed at apps that require the ability to sustain high speeds when handling large files such as high-spec video, and it shines at this.

The Little Big Disk boasts a second Thunderbolt port for daisy-chaining other devices. So, connecting it to a MacBook doesn't forfeit the ability to work more comfortably with a second display.

> *"Our tests revealed a pleasant surprise: LaCie's read and write figures are too conservative"*

Thunderbolt can deliver 10W of power to a device, but the drive requires an external power supply. It adds roughly a third of the drive's volume again, which isn't much. It's more irritating to carry another bulky three-pronged UK plug.

The drive's metal body is sturdy. It weighs 650g, or just under half a 13-inch MacBook Air. The ridged sides are intended to dissipate heat, but it was only lukewarm after copying 100GB to the drive. The fan, though, emitted a noticeable high pitch about halfway through.

Don't forget to add the £35 cost of Apple's Thunderbolt cable, which isn't bundled. But if you need and can afford this sort of performance when away from your desk, that isn't going to hold you back. Nor should it.

Alan Stonebridge

KEY INFO

Manufacturer: LaCie
http://lacie.com/uk

SPECIFICATIONS

Capacity: 240GB **Form factor:** 2x 2.5-inch SSDs **Interfaces:** Thunderbolt **Dimensions:** 40x140x85mm **Weight:** 650g

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Speedy portable storage
- ⊕ Small, strong metal enclosure
- ⊖ Requires external power supply
- ⊖ Whine from long, intense use

VERDICT

★★★⯪☆

"The Thunderbolt and SSD combination is a triumph, but it'll cost you a lot."

iPhone & iPad

Words: Ian Osborne **Photography:** Joe Branston

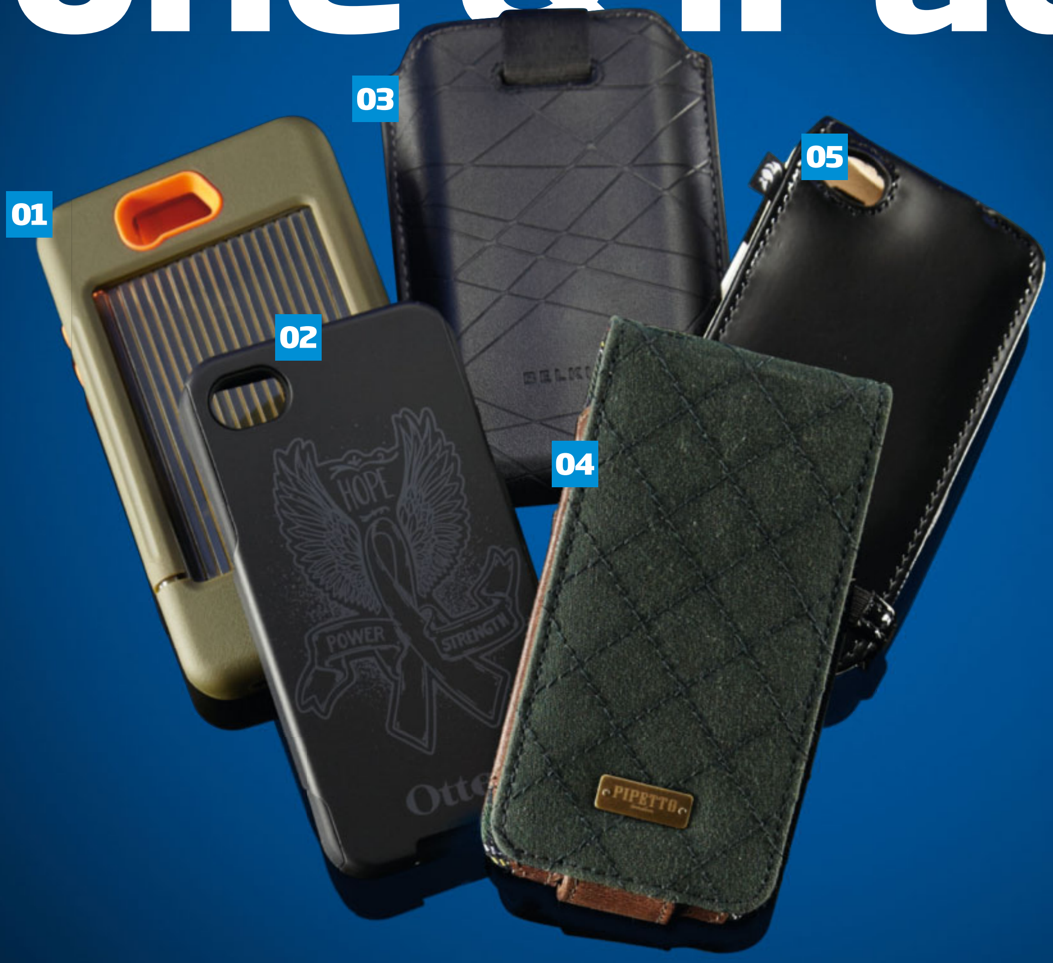
Case-Mate TANK

£43 www.case-mate.eu.com

01 According to Case-Mate, this khaki and orange behemoth 'meets or exceeds US military specifications for sand, dust, shock, drop, wind, rain and vibration'. Thankfully, you don't have to join the American army to use one. Cushioned silicone prevents drop damage and keeps dust and dirt out, and a slider retracts and replaces the corrugated screen cover. It comes with a robust belt clip too. If you use your iPhone in a high-risk environment, it's ideal.

VERDICT

★★★★☆



OtterBox Strength Case

£21 www.otterbox.com

02 The Strength Case consists of a soft silicone lining held in place with a hard plastic shell. A screen protector and cleaning cloth are included too. The case gives access to all buttons, and there's an opening for the camera. Silicone covers protect the headphone socket and 30-pin dock connector when they're not in use, which is a useful feature. Also 10% of the price goes to the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade.

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

Belkin Verve Pull

£16 www.belkin.com/uk

03 Belkin says this leather pouch case is 'an extension of your sophisticated personality'. We wouldn't go that far, but it's great for keeping your iPhone 4 or 4S safe. Your phone is secured with a Velcro-topped tab that reaches over the top of the case. Pulling it lifts the phone out of the sleeve for removal. Only the power button and headphone socket are accessible while your phone's in the case, but a window on the front shows incoming calls and the current time.

VERDICT

★★★★☆

Pipetto Hunter Wanderer

£40 www.pipetto.co.uk

04 This wax cotton flip case has a tartan lining and Italian-leather features. It gives access to all your iPhone's buttons, but there's no hole at the back for the camera. Like all Pipetto products, the Hunter Wanderer is designed and manufactured to the highest standards. The cover is held in place with a reliable press stud, and it's comfy to use the phone without removing it from the case.

VERDICT

★★★★½

Proporta Shine Case

£22 www.proporta.com

05 The Shine Case is made of patent leather and is secured with an elasticated strap. The interior also features a zebra-print inner lid and a small mirror. Compatible with the iPhone 4 and 4S, it allows access to all buttons and connectors, and has a hole for the camera. This is the perfect option if you wanted something stylish to keep your iPhone protected but didn't want to spend too much on it. Its build quality isn't as good as the Pipetto's but the price reflects this.

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

cases

Make sure your iPhone 4/4S and iPad 2 are the best-dressed gadgets around with these cases

01
02
03
04
05

OtterBox Defender

£30 www.otterbox.com

01 This rugged case is built for protection rather than looks. The shell covering the back of the iPad 2 is made from polycarbonate and silicone. A clip-on polycarbonate facing protects the screen, and folds into a stand when removed. A hole on the back of the case keeps the Apple logo visible, which takes away from the case's rather garish design. It adds considerable bulk to the iPad, and takes away all of its finesse.

VERDICT

★★☆☆☆

Maroo ARANGA II Folio Case

£50 www.maroo.com

02 The Maroo's ARANGA II comes with a leather back and spine, a nylon cover and a suede interior. It also has a trademarked SG (Safe Guard) Bumper to hold your iPad 2 in place, securing it at each corner. Elastic corners hold it shut for travel, and there's a hole on the back for the camera. The cover folds back into a stand, and features a magnet that sleeps and wakes your iPad 2.

VERDICT

★★★★☆

Speck PixelSkin HD Wrap

£27 www.speckproducts.com

03 This handy case combines a skin for the back of your iPad 2 with a Smart Cover-like front piece that folds back into a triangular stand, but doesn't sleep and wake your iPad. Available in four colours, its glossy finish with matte-embossed square pattern makes it comfortable to hold in the hand. Fitting it on your iPad 2 is a bit of a struggle, but as it's designed to remain in place at all times, you only have to do it once.

VERDICT

★★½☆☆

Griffin AirStrap

£16 www.griffintechnology.com

04 This is an iPad case with a twist. Griffin's AirStrap features a neoprene band on the back of the device for you to slide your hand into, making it more comfortable to hold and use your iPad without your fingers going numb. A rubber rim holds your tablet safely and securely and allows access to all its buttons and ports. As it doesn't protect the screen and it's not designed to use with a Smart Cover, you might want a sleeve to protect it while on the move.

VERDICT

★★★½☆

Booq Booqpad Folio

£45 www.booqbags.com

05 The Booqpad Folio is available in a range of colours, and is made of real leather, fastening shut with a press stud. As well as holding your iPad, it has room for pens, cards, tickets and a supplied A5 notepad. Some might argue the iPad should do away with such pen-and-paper scribbling, but we disagree. There are plenty of occasions when you really need to do things the good old-fashioned way.

VERDICT

★★★½☆

Words: Ian Osborne

>> iPHONE DOCK

Osun Metal Dock

£20 www.osun.co.uk

01 Osun's attractive Metal Dock nicely complements your iPhone 4 or 4S. It's USB-powered with a one-metre cord, and can hold your phone in portrait or landscape mode. It looks great next to your Mac for syncing and charging, and when twinned with a USB three-pin mains plug (not supplied), it turns your phone into a useful clock or bedside alarm.

Metal Dock is sturdy, and holds the iPhone 4 well. Its cushioned facing means it won't cause scratches, and at 100 grams, it's not prone to falling over, with or without the phone attached.

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"A well-built dock that combines simplicity with style."

>> SEVEN-PORT HUB

The Ultimate USB Hub

£25 www.getdigital.de

02 Your Mac can never have too many powered USB ports. The Ultimate USB Hub gives you an extra seven, and each is individually switched. If you connect a peripheral that drains electricity, or gets on your nerves with its constant humming or blinking LEDs, you can switch off the power to its USB port. Ultimate USB Hub's power supply is strong enough to service all seven ports at once, though it uses a European two-pin plug, so you need a three-pin adapter for the UK.

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"If you keep running out of USB ports, this is the ideal solution for you."

>> WIRELESS REPEATER

AVM FRITZ!WLAN Repeater 300E

£60 www.fritzbox.eu

03 This has undergone some radical changes since we last looked at it. The touch-sensitive display has been replaced with less intrusive green LEDs, and its seldom-used music features give way to an Ethernet socket, so as well as extending your wireless network, it acts as a bridge for Ethernet devices. It's cheaper than the previous model too.

It's easy to set up, through WPS or using your web browser.

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A great way of extending your network, for wireless and Ethernet connections."

>> HOMEPLUG

Devolo DLAN 500 AVtriple+

£130 www.devolo.co.uk

04 Homeplug networking is great for when Ethernet cables or Wi-Fi connectivity are impractical. By connecting your router to a homeplug, which then plugs into the mains, you can use your home wiring as virtual cables by connecting further Ethernet gadgets using homeplugs. The results are fast and reliable, especially if you're using Devolo's 500Mbps plugs.

One of the homeplugs in this pack has three Ethernet ports, so you can connect several peripherals at once.

VERDICT

★★★★½

"An excellent homeplug AV device combining speed and versatility."

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>> IMAGE EDITOR

Acqualia Picturesque 2.4.0

£11 Apply simple effects to lots of photos

KEY INFO

Developer: Acqualia
www.acqualia.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6 or higher

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Very easy to use
- ⊕ Precise control over effects
- ⊖ Batch processing always on
- ⊖ Some signs of instability

VERDICT

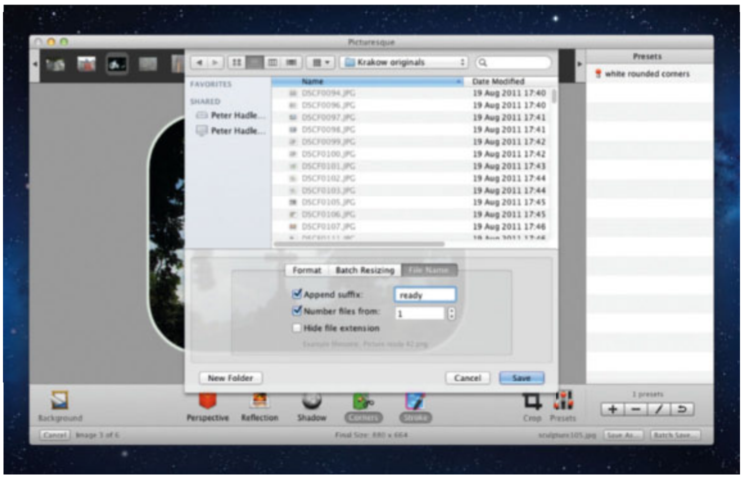
★★★★☆

"It won't replace a real image editor, but it's good for adding simple effects."

Developers Acqualia have produced *Picturesque* – an easy-to-use app for applying simple effects to your photos.

Drag and drop images into the *Picturesque* window, and you can then crop them, or add pseudo-3D perspective, reflections, curved edges, shadows, glows, and border strokes. Each of these is precisely configurable, for example perspective is adjusted by specifying the rotation and elevation; reflection by specifying length, opacity and offset; and so on.

And that's about it: this is no Photoshop Lite, it's more like Photoshop Weightless. The only other functionality of note is the ability to save preset effect specifications, and some good options for batch saving in PNG, TIFF or JPEG, including auto-numbering of files.



Options like auto-numbering help you manage large groups of image files.

One function that would be very welcome in the next version is, for now, missing: the ability to turn off batch processing. *Picturesque* will apply the effects you choose to all open photos. This will often be useful, of course, but it does mean that if you want different effects for each image, you have to spend a lot of time opening and closing files. We also had a few unexpected quits, though we can't say this was the app's fault.

All in all, *Picturesque* is worth a try if you regularly need to apply any of its built-in effects to images – most of them aren't so easy in standard image editors. It won't, however, even begin to replace a fuller-featured editor for general-purpose photo manipulation.

Barnaby Page

>> DIARY/NOTE-TAKER

iReminisce 1.0.5

£5.49 Record your thoughts and musings

KEY INFO

Developer: Lomation, LLC
www.lomation.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6 or later

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Simple to use
- ⊕ Can be locked down
- ⊕ Attach files to your entries
- ⊖ Currently no sync/share

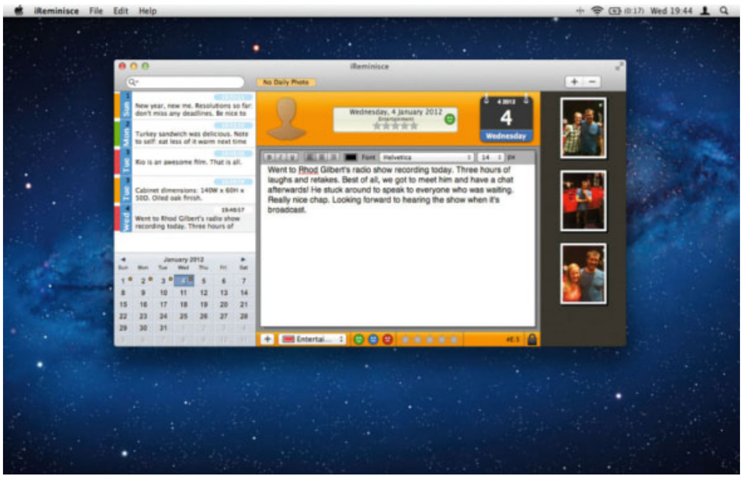
VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A simple but effective diary or note-taking app, with useful features."

Designed primarily for use as a diary, *iReminisce* is built to make jotting down your entries as quick and painless as possible – and it does this with aplomb. At its simplest, you open it up, type your thoughts and quit again; that's all there is to it. Your notes are saved and time-stamped, enabling you to find them quickly.

But to use it only in this way would be to miss out on the other useful features it includes. To help you remember more about when you took the notes, you can add a star rating and your mood. Furthermore, *iReminisce* enables you to include a so-called 'Daily Photo', which gives you the chance to take pictures of yourself over time to look back on. You're not limited to pictures, either: a panel down the side enables you to drag in other files that are relevant to the entry you're working on, meaning you've got them close to hand when you come to read back over the entry.



Went to Rhod Gilbert's radio show recording today. Three hours of laughs and retakes. Best of all, we got to meet him and have a chat afterwards! He stuck around to speak to everyone who was waiting. Really nice chap. Looking forward to hearing the show when it's broadcast.

Jot down your amazing thoughts and musings and attach images and other files to them.

You can also categorise your entries, and lock down the app to keep your thoughts hidden from snooping eyes. The whole thing is well thought-out and simple to use. *iReminisce* also makes an excellent note-taking repository.

While it's intended primarily as a private diary, it would be good if there was a way to share entries over the web. Lastly, new notes are added to the day you currently have selected on the calendar – which may not be 'today'. We'd like to see the option to make 'today' the default time-stamp for new notes. However, all in all, this is a very effective app.

Laurence Cable

>> BLOGGING AND JOURNALING SOFTWARE

MacJournal 6

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

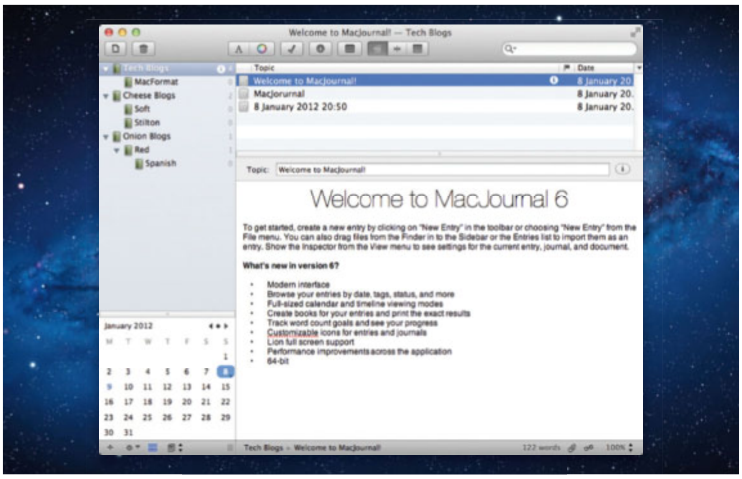
For $40 (£25) One of the most popular blogging tools for Mac has been revamped for OS X Lion

MacJournal 6 is the latest incarnation of the very popular blogging and journal software from Mariner. No matter what you want to keep track of with words, *MacJournal* can help, be it a private and personal diary or a public and published blog. Blogging is the natural fit for software like *MacJournal* and it's no surprise to see you can automatically link *MacJournal* to several services. Blogger, Wordpress and Tumblr, to name but a few, can all be updated with a copy of *MacJournal*. As you might expect, you can add pictures, music, PDF documents and YouTube documents to all your entries.

This version of *MacJournal* has been fully updated for Lion and it now supports fullscreen operation. In addition to the fullscreen mode there's a focused editing option. Essentially, focused editing removes all the interface items and leaves you with just the text, perfect if you are easily distracted.

> *"Blogging is the natural fit for software such as MacJournal and you can automatically link it to several services"*

The timeline view shows you how regularly you've been updating so that you can quickly see when you are most busy with your blogging. In addition there's a calendar view so you can see month by month the days you blog too. If you manage multiple blogs or journals you can see each individually or all of them in the timeline of Calendar view, to make sure you're keeping up evenly with all your entries.


Welcome to MacJournal! — Tech Blogs
Tech Blogs
MacFormat
Cheese Blogs
Soft
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Onion Blogs
Red
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Welcome to MacJournal! 8 January 20
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8 January 2012 20:50 8 January 20.
Topic: Welcome to MacJournal!
January 2012
Tech Blogs › Welcome to MacJournal!
122 words
100%

Welcome to MacJournal 6

To get started, create a new entry by clicking on "New Entry" in the toolbar or choosing "New Entry" from the File menu. You can also drag files from the Finder in to the Sidebar or the Entries list to import them as an entry. Show the Inspector from the View menu to see settings for the current entry, journal, and document.

What's new in version 6?

- Modern interface
- Browse your entries by date, tags, status, and more
- Full-sized calendar and timeline viewing modes
- Create books for your entries and print the exact results
- Track word count goals and see your progress
- Customizable icons for entries and journals
- Lion full screen support
- Performance improvements across the application
- 64-bit

Whether you keep lots of blogs or journals or just have one, MacJournal keeps things simple.

Multitasking master

One thing that we found *MacJournal* excelled at was managing multiple blogs. The sidebar contains all your journals and you simply click on one to start writing for that journal. You can have nested journals under one umbrella too. So, if you write 10 technology blogs and ten blogs about cheese then it's easy to keep them separated and organised. The Smart Journals are also fantastic if you manage multiple blogs. Much like a smart folder, you can create a journal by tags, topics, date, labels and much more. Simply set up a Smart Journal, decide upon the criteria and *MacJournal* creates a new journal from your existing blog entries.

One of the great things about *MacJournal* is how it manages the more complex tools like templates and HTML – should that be something you want to tinker with. If you want to just get on with writing and not bother yourself with any of the finer details then *MacJournal* let's you do that, but if you need closer control of things, then that's possible too.

There are just too many features to go into fully here and sometimes this means that software is bloated or overly complex, but *MacJournal* just doesn't feel that way. It's not often that software manages to tread the fine line between being great for those who want simplicity and also worthy of those looking for something a little more in-depth. *MacJournal* walks this line with real aplomb. If you have a blog to update or several – hundreds or more in fact – then *MacJournal* can help you with both.

Blogger's best friend

MacJournal is simple to use and yet still has some depth for those who need to get past the very basics. It's an excellent tool and one that we can thoroughly recommend. Linking it to your blog or keeping things private is equally easy, and for those managing multiple blogs it's also very useful.

Christopher Brennan

KEY INFO

Developer: Mariner Software
www.marinersoftware.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6.8 or later

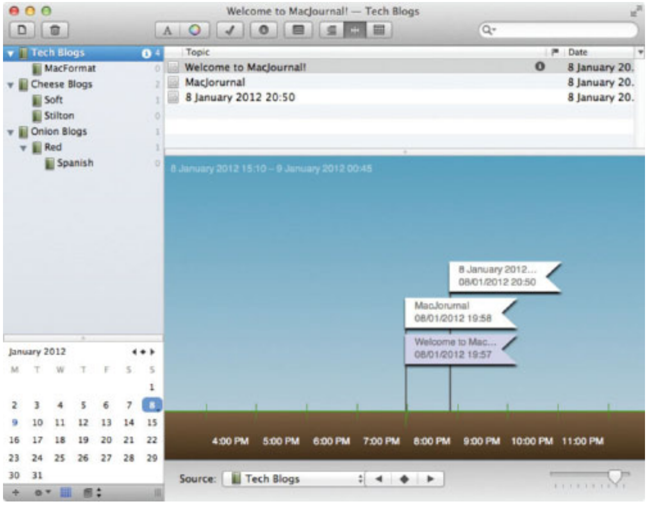
PROS & CONS

⊕ Simple interface
⊕ Lots of options
⊕ Multiple blog support
⊕ Smart Journals
⊕ Calendar views
⊕ Easy to add images etc

VERDICT

★★★★★

"No matter if you manage multiple blogs or just the one, this software will make the job very easy indeed."


Welcome to MacJournal! — Tech Blogs
Tech Blogs
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Cheese Blogs
Soft
Stilton
Onion Blogs
Red
Spanish
Topic
Date
Welcome to MacJournal! 8 January 20.
MacJorurnal 8 January 20.
8 January 2012 20:50 8 January 20.
8 January 2012 15:10 – 9 January 2012 00:45
8 January 2012... 08/01/2012 20:50
MacJorurnal 08/01/2012 19:58
Welcome to Mac... 08/01/2012 19:57
January 2012
4:00 PM
5:00 PM
6:00 PM
7:00 PM
8:00 PM
9:00 PM
10:00 PM
11:00 PM
Source: Tech Blogs

You can see very easily when you are making entries on all your blogs with the Calendar view.

»HOME ACCOUNTS SOFTWARE

Accountz Home 2012

£33 The right app to sort your home accounts?

KEY INFO

Developer: Accountz.com Limited
www.accountz.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6 **Processor:** Intel
Other: 2GB RAM

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Simple button-based interface
- ⊕ Powerful account-keeping tools
- ⊖ Too many step-by-step processes
- ⊖ Complex for budgeting novices

VERDICT

★★⯪☆☆

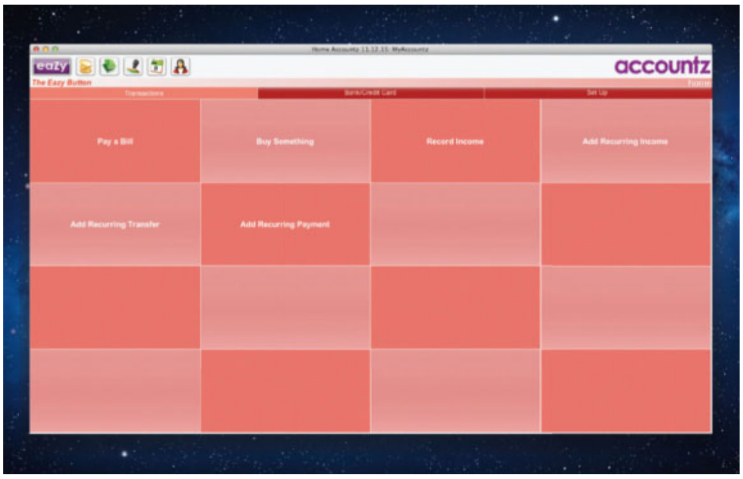
"Looks so simple to use on the surface but quickly descends into complexity."

Accountz Home is a cross-platform application for keeping home budgets. Fire it up and its origins are clear – interface elements, layout, look and feel are all like something from Windows, rather than OS X.

Once you've set it up, which is a quick walkthrough, you are into what the developers call 'Eazy Button' mode – a screen with a set of big buttons on it, each of which represent common accounting tasks like buying something, paying a bill, and so on. Click on one, and you're walked through entering the information step-by-step. It's simple, but after doing it a few times you'll probably wish that some of the steps were combined into a single screen.

Once you get past the 'Eazy Button' interface, things get more complex. The main interface – Accounts, Balancing and Budget – consists of a sidebar with a set of accounts, income and expenses, and other asset types. Both accounts (which can be bank accounts, cash accounts, or even shares) and expenses (food, car fuel, and so on) share the same icon: the only difference is the colour. When you look at a list in each one, they also look the same. This makes sense if you're used to accounting, but for new users it can be very confusing. And the budgeting feature, which looks like a simple spreadsheet, is likely to be incomprehensible if you don't read the manual first.

Accountz Home is too complex for most home users. But if you're an experienced account-keeper, it's a flexible and powerful app indeed.
Ian Betteridge



The Eazy Button mode hides some of the complexity, but too many steps are soon revealed.

»EMAIL CLIENT

Sparrow 1.5

£6.99 An improved version of a great email app

KEY INFO

Developer: Sparrow SAS
http://sparrowmailapp.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6 or later

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Good value for money
- ⊕ Dropbox integration
- ⊕ Much improved searches
- ⊕ Clean and user-friendly design

VERDICT

★★★★★

"Sparrow continues to grow and improve as a fast and light alternative to Mail."

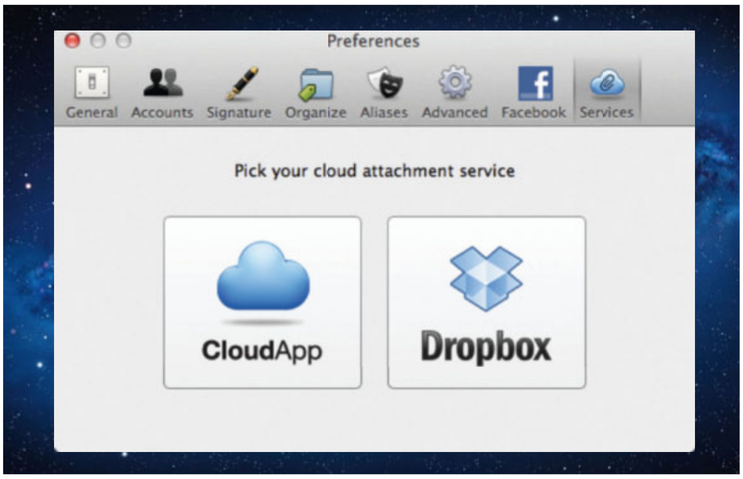
Since we last looked at *Sparrow* in *MF239* the email application has grown and grown in popularity. As an alternative to *Mail*, *Sparrow* aimed to be lightweight and speedy. This version has seen three major updates and some polish under the hood. The new features are: Dropbox integration, better management of remote images and a much improved search functionality.

The integration of Dropbox means you can easily send very large attachments without worrying that the message will bounce back because it's too big. *Sparrow* will also sync your files to the Dropbox service to ensure that you're never without them and as an additional backup.

Lots of email you get will have images embedded in them that are loaded from outside sources, and this version of *Sparrow* allows you to manage those messages more effectively. You can now choose to block images in emails, display them just once or, if you trust the source, always load images from the recipient.

Last time we looked at *Sparrow* the search functionality was one of our minor gripes. This latest version of *Sparrow* has much improved search functionality and overall searches are performed more speedily too.

If you're looking for an alternative to *Mail* or find the seemingly constant redesigns of Gmail's web interface too much, then *Sparrow* is an excellent alternative. It's fast and a pleasure to use, the new improved feature set makes it even more compelling, and at £6.99 it really is a great investment.
Christopher Brennan



Pick your cloud attachment service

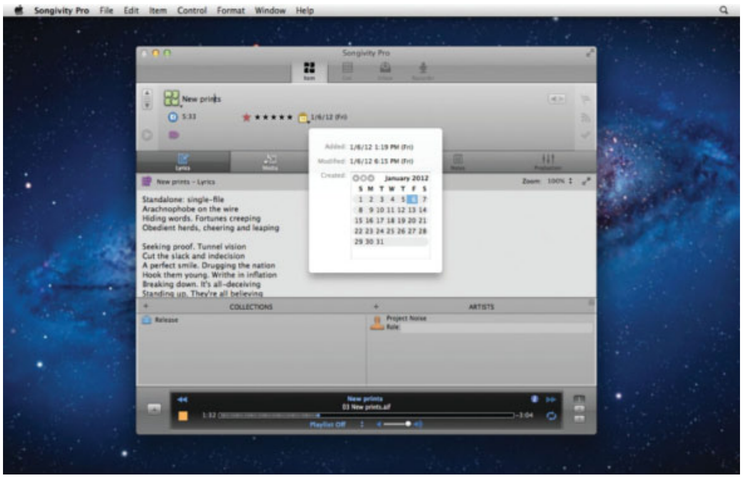
Connect to Dropbox to easily send and archive your emails, no matter what the size.

>> SONGWRITING TOOL

Songivity Pro 2.0.2

£35 Store, manage and sort your songwriting audio, lyrics and information

Since you're reading this review, chances are you're a songwriter. Then the thinking behind *Songivity Pro* should appeal. The developer bills the app as a creative assistant that enables you to capture, organise and connect musical ideas throughout the songwriting process. In other words, rather than storing riffs on a rickety old recording unit, drumbeats in *GarageBand*, lyrics on the back of an envelope, and production notes in your head, you dump everything into *Songivity Pro*'s inbox. You can then process, sort and tag items, associate content with user-defined songs, and collate tracks into collections. Fantastic, right?



New prints – Lyrics

Standalone: single-file
Arachnophobe on the wire
Hiding words. Fortunes creeping
Obedient herds, cheering and leaping

Seeking proof. Tunnel vision
Cut the slack and indecision
A perfect smile. Drugging the nation
Hook them young. Writhe in inflation
Breaking down. It's all-deceiving
Standing up. They're all believing

Songivity Pro's interface takes time to get to grips with, and even then it can frustrate.

Conceptual winner

Indeed, from a conceptual standpoint, this is all smart stuff. We particularly like the way you can define a song, copy across your lyrics, add media, and tag and rate the result. Usefully, *Songivity Pro* isn't fussy about what media you import either: it's just as happy if you drag in text documents, mixed-down audio, images, and in-progress *GarageBand* files. Quick Look support enables many file types to be previewed, too, and those that can't, can be launched with a link to their parent application. Furthermore, you also get a basic built-in recorder, so you can quickly get down in your DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) new ideas for riffs in a song's chorus, or a new vocal hook that you're not yet ready to record.

> *"For certain kinds of songwriters, Songivity Pro could prove to be an extremely useful tool to work with alongside GarageBand"*

Tale of implementation

The problem we had with this application is the manner in which these features have been implemented. The interface is confusing and cluttered, and it all feels a bit 'kitchen sink' rather than offering Apple-like efficiency. Even after reading through the manual, we were still regularly frustrated with how the application behaved; for example, we found drag-and-drop and undo actions unresponsive on a number of occasions.

We also felt there was a missed opportunity in not offering more collaborative tools. In a studio environment, we can see value in *Songivity Pro*, enabling a group to build up information related to tracks; and for the solo musician, it also has potential. But it's not a good option for distributed bands, which is a pity. And even for those where *Songivity Pro* is more relevant, we'd argue that you must be willing to put in quite a lot of time and investment, in order to be comfortable with its not particularly intuitive workflow.

There's also the question of cost. Given that basic DAW *GarageBand* is on the App Store for £10.49, over three times that for a companion organisational tool seems a bit much. The £17.49 *Songivity* does also exist, but its 100-item limit and other restrictions make it rather less appealing than its Pro brother.

Overlooking the cons

Ultimately, then, our feelings are very mixed towards this app. For certain kinds of singer/songwriters (solo performers or a group in a studio), *Songivity Pro* could prove to be an extremely useful tool to work with alongside a favourite DAW. But unfortunately it just wasn't for us. That's not to say we don't like the idea, but the execution irks. Still, despite our less-than-stellar rating, we would recommend you give the demo version a spin if the concept appeals. You might find the app's benefits outweigh its idiosyncrasies and rather muddled interface.

Craig Grannell

KEY INFO

Developer: Coconut Strum
http://coconutstrum.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X Lion

PROS & CONS

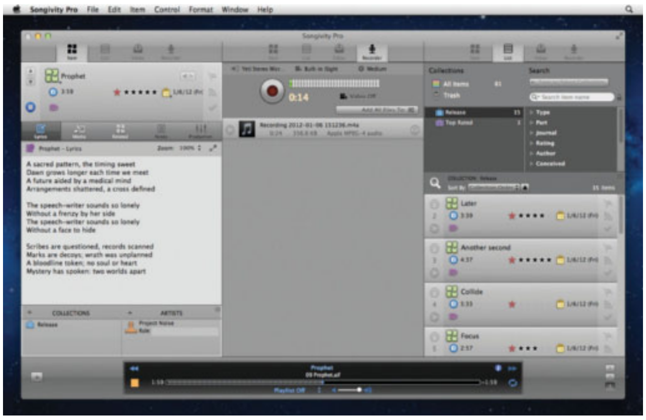
- + Strong sorting and tagging
- + Tons of options throughout
- + Imports all kinds of files
- − Needs collaboration tools
- − Awkward, clunky interface
- − A bit on the pricey side

VERDICT

★★½☆☆

"Good ideas for organising song information, but we just weren't sold on Songivity's execution."

The single-column mode is somewhat simpler to deal with, if not quite Apple-like in terms of elegance.



Prophet – Lyrics

A sacred pattern, the timing sweet
Dawn grows longer each time we meet
A future aided by a medical mind
Arrangements shattered, a cross defined

The speech-writer sounds so lonely
Without a frenzy by her side
The speech-writer sounds so lonely
Without a face to hide

Scribes are questioned, records scanned
Marks are decoys; wrath was unplanned
A bloodline token; no soul or heart
Mystery has spoken: two worlds apart

>>LAUNCHER

Running with Crayons Ltd Alfred 1.0

£FREE/£15 Search for and manipulate files

KEY INFO

Developer: Running with Crayons Ltd **URL:** alfredapp.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: Mac OS X 10.6+

PROS & CONS

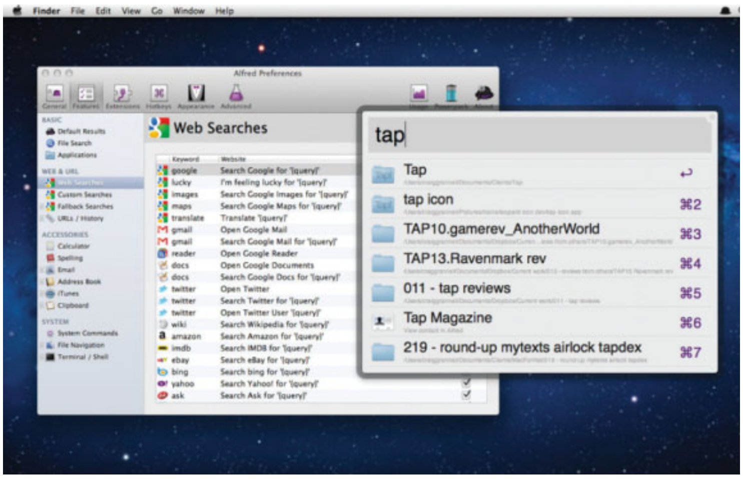
- ⊕ Fast, responsive and useful
- ⊕ Highly configurable
- ⊕ Many time-saving features
- ⊖ Free version a bit limited

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"An impressive keyboard-based launcher - if you're willing to pay for it."

At first glance, *Alfred* resembles a replacement-of-sorts for Spotlight, albeit one that works as a floating window rather than living in your menu bar. A user-definable shortcut brings up the window and you start typing, *Alfred* filtering its results as you add characters. Using the preferences you can define what's shown in *Alfred*'s results (apps, bookmarks, documents, folders), and you can use keywords to trigger web searches, suggest spellings and perform calculations. In use, *Alfred* is impressively responsive – much faster than Spotlight – but the results list is limited to a maximum of nine items and, crucially, lacks support for Spotlight previews.



Keyword	Website
google	Search Google for '{query}'
lucky	I'm feeling lucky for '{query}'
images	Search Google Images for '{query}'
maps	Search Google Maps for '{query}'
translate	Translate '{query}'
gmail	Open Google Mail
gmail	Search Google Mail for '{query}'
reader	Open Google Reader
docs	Open Google Documents
docs	Search Google Docs for '{query}'
twitter	Open Twitter
twitter	Search Twitter for '{query}'
twitter	Open Twitter User '{query}'
wiki	Search Wikipedia for '{query}'
amazon	Search Amazon for '{query}'
imdb	Search IMDB for '{query}'
ebay	Search eBay for '{query}'
bing	Search bing for '{query}'
yahoo	Search Yahoo! for '{query}'
ask	Search Ask for '{query}'

Alfred is very configurable, especially if you buy the Powerpack for an extra £15 outlay.

But if you're willing to pay £15 to bolt on the *Alfred Powerpack*, the app becomes a different beast entirely, unlocking a ton of functionality. You get access to *Address Book* contacts, an *iTunes* mini-player, text-based clipboard storage that can be filtered, definable system-wide shortcuts for apps and files, file navigation within *Alfred*'s standard search window, and the ability to perform actions on items. These features aren't without their quirks. For example, folder hot-keys don't get individual names, making management a pain; nor can you browse a folder and then dynamically filter its contents – you merely directly add to the path. Still, we think *Alfred* is worth consideration for keyboard-oriented users, and it sits neatly between the comparatively limited Spotlight and the relatively complex *Quicksilver*.
Craig Grannell

>>COPY-AND-PASTE TOOL

PopClip 1.2.2

$4.99 (£3.30) iOS copy and paste for Mac

URL: http://pilotmoon.com/popclip **Developer:** Pilot Moon Software

With OS X Lion, Apple aimed to bring the best bits of iOS to the Mac, hence Launchpad, full-screen apps, auto-save and app resume. One thing that didn't make the cut is the iOS copy-and-paste system, which *PopClip* mimics. Select some text and a small iOS-style widget appears above it, enabling you to cut, copy and paste. During use, *PopClip* provides options on a contextual basis. If you've already copied something, clicking elsewhere will solely show 'Paste' within the widget. Typically, you also get access to dictionary and web search buttons (click to trigger searches in apps). But select a URL and the dictionary option will be replaced by a button for opening the site in a browser.

There are also customisation options, enabling you to change the widget's size, exclude apps and toggle features. It could also do with a setting to define how long the widget takes to fade, because it disappears a second or so after moving the cursor if you don't select an option. Still, it's an intuitive system and nice for the mouse-oriented, although not exactly an essential add-on.
Craig Grannell

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"Intuitive if inessential, but worth a look for iOS addicts and the mouse-obsessed."

>>WEB DESIGN TOOL

Gradient 1.0

£3.99 Speed up creating web gradients

URL: http://gradientapp.com **Developer:** JumpZero

A rule of thumb in professional web design is to hand-code everything. Visual tools often output messy code, resulting in slower downloads and complicating maintenance. Unfortunately, the waters are muddied by cutting-edge mark-up and CSS being complex, in part due to evolving standards. When multiple fallbacks are required, coding by hand can be nightmarish.

Gradient aims to ease your burden when it comes to CSS gradients. Although online tools exist for creating gradients and outputting code, this Mac app blows them away from an interface standpoint – it looks gorgeous, is very usable, and enables you to tweak the code output to support certain browsers. The one drawback is that although *Gradient* supports radial and linear gradients, it doesn't support multiple-step gradients. The developer states it will be added in an update, but even in its current state, *Gradient* will pay for itself in no time if you're into commercial work. It also works as a resource-light RGB/hex colour-picker.
Craig Grannell

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"Beautiful and useful. Will be perfect when multi-step gradients are supported."

Issue 237
August 2011

Unleashing OS X Lion
11 uses for an old Mac
Never lose a file again
How to slim down apps
On the disc
Filter Forge 2.0, Singlemizer 1, ChromaTunes 1 and more

Issue 238
September 2011

Essential iTunes guide
30 top Lion tips
RSS newsreaders tested
Mac mini and Air reviews
On the disc
DaisyDisk 1.5.3, DropDMG 2.8.6, Ulysses Pro 1.6f

SOLD OUT!

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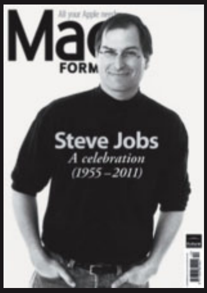
October 2011

10 ways to free up space
iCloud: why you need it
Apple without Steve Jobs
Media streamers group test
On the disc
Chronicle 3.5SE, Web Confidential, File Courier 1.5

Issue 240
November 2011

Top 80 Lion tips
10 reasons to love iOS 5
Backup utilities group test
iWork Numbers tutorial
On the disc
Scrivener 1.54, ShareTool 1.38, VinylStudio Lite



Issue 241
December 2011

Steve Jobs special issue!
A celebration of the life and work of the man behind the Mac, the iPhone and iPad
Choice highlights
50 magical OS X tricks
Multifunction printer test

Issue 242
Christmas 2011

Massive Apple kit guide
The final verdict on Siri
Vintage Apple products
Digitial paint apps test
Choice highlights
Full Apple ID guide
Wacom Inkling on test

Back issues

Want to order a back issue of MacFormat? Hurry – stock is limited!

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Issue 243 / January 2012

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Essential tips for staying connected

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Make your Mac pay for itself
What's new for Apple in 2012
Compact system cameras on test
Creating your own Pages templates
How to use iPhoto with external editors
Adobe's cloud-based photo library tested

Other review highlights
Lego Star Wars III, Revo K2 iOS dock, GeChic On-Lap Monitor, Withings Baby Monitor

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iPad
100 tricks & tips for iPad 2
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>> PLATFORMER

Cave Story+

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

£6.99 A beautifully simple and quite magnificent action platform game from a lone coder

KEY INFO

Developer: Nicalis Inc
www.nicalis.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6.6+ **Processor:** Intel only, Power PC not supported
RAM: 128MB RAM **Video:** 64MB

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Wonderful retro-style visuals
- ⊕ Equally great 8-bit soundtrack
- ⊕ Simple, classic gameplay
- ⊕ Pixel perfect control
- ⊕ Fun story and characters
- ⊕ Frantic boss fights

VERDICT

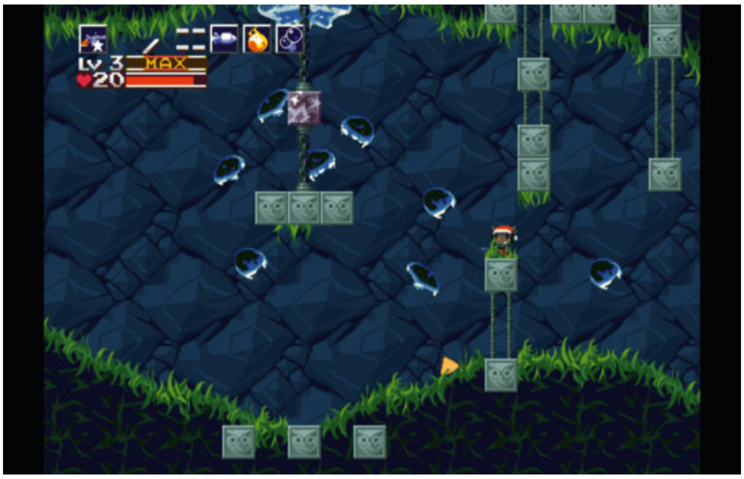
★★★★★

"A pretty much perfectly designed platformer, just like they made them in the old days. Utter gaming delight guaranteed."

The independent coder is often pictured as a bespectacled young genius who knocks out a simple little game in next to no time at all. Then, should their title become massively popular, it can be considered something of an overnight success.

This is almost certainly inaccurate on all counts. The real heroes of independent development, lone coders, who do pretty much everything themselves, will often toil on their game over a long period of time while holding down another job. And should their labour of love (for that is what it is) experience any level of success at all, it is probably limited to a small coterie of indie game fans – with big-time success reserved only for those with a particularly brilliant game, as well as an extensive period of time to keep plugging away trying to promote it.

Enter Daisuke Amaya (known as Pixel to his fans). After years of tinkering about with platformer *Cave Story* in his spare time while at college, he released the game as freeware in 2004 and found, over the course of the next six years that people rather liked it. It has now been ported to most major gaming platforms and received enormously positive reviews.



Each level is riddled with enemies, but defeating them often yields interesting bonuses.

Little big game

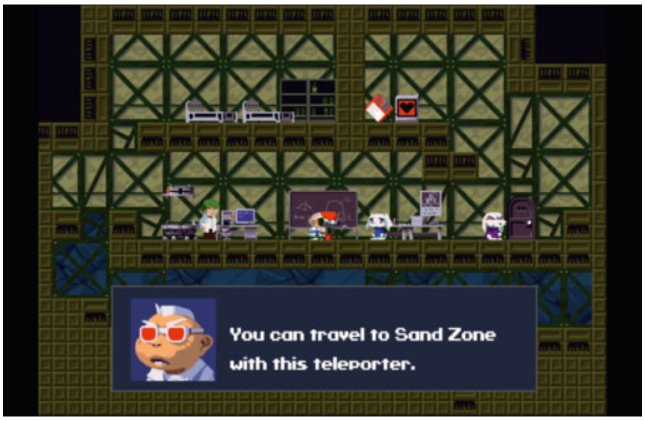
We called it a 'little platform game' but that's also inaccurate. It's a big game, that is ambitious and time-consuming enough to rival the classic platform action games – such as *Metroid* and *Castlevania* – that inspired it.

Cave Story+ is a tweaked and polished version of the game and the one that Mac owners can now download, play and go absolutely nuts with joy about, because that is almost certainly the reaction you will have. We guarantee it.

> *"Cave Story+ is a tweaked and polished game that Mac owners can download, play and go absolutely nuts with joy about"*

The game is unashamedly retro, featuring not only flat, pixelated, gaudy visuals (you can switch between the original graphics and a slightly enhanced mode) but also controls that, in a lesser game, might seem crude and disappointing. You can shoot in four directions, move left, right and jump. Not much to work with there, you might think, but the reason it functions is because the controls are pixel sharp and super responsive. You can bounce and blast your way around to your heart's content, confident that whether you succeed or fail it's down to your own skill and digital dexterity, rather than some annoying quirk in the control system.

And the gameplay itself is a sheer delight. The main character, who is nameless and has lost his memory, traverses the story's various different zones of Grasslands, Sand zone, Labyrinth, Mimiga village. On his travels he encounters cute Japanese characters, who help him in his ultimate aim to defeat the Doctor, who plans to conquer the world (or some such evil plan). This quest is made up of a variety of almost perfectly designed challenges, including platforming sections, puzzles, exploration, waves of enemies that need to be despatched with a number of upgradable weapons, and some truly memorable boss encounters. However, for your sake, we'll say no more than that, since much of the pleasure is in the discovery of each new area.



You can travel to Sand Zone with this teleporter.

You can replenish your energy here and teleport to the game's various different zones.

Success story

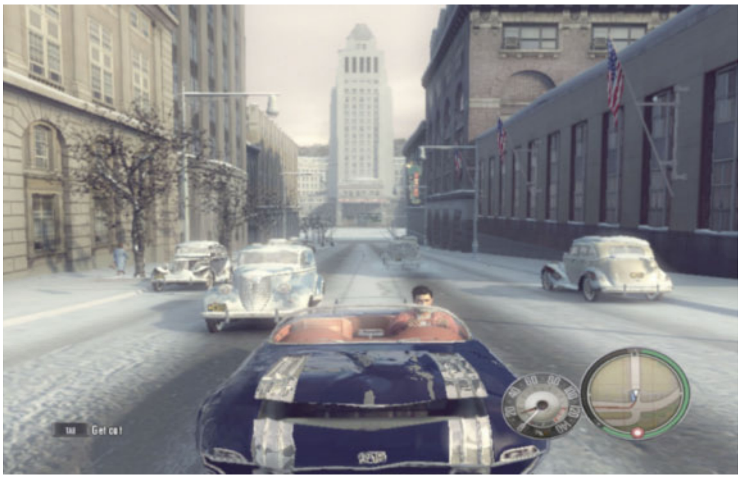
Cave Story+ is such a total delight that it will appeal to any gamer of any age, but it will be especially resonant for older players brought up on a diet of 8-bit gaming.

Andy Dyer

>> THIRD-PERSON ACTION ADVENTURE

Mafia II: Director's Cut

£30 Live the life of a Mafia footsoldier in this compelling and cinematic gangster tale


Winter brings its own atmosphere and hazards to Empire Bay, hence the state of your car.

Ever fancied the idea of becoming a made man in a large criminal organisation and earning your trade by violent and nefarious means? Probably not, because the majority of us have at least some sort of moral compass by which to navigate around the choppy waters of casual criminality.

But that's only true of the real world, so when it comes to immersing yourself in the life of a lowlife via the magical medium of video games, well… that's a whole different matter. And with the arrival of *Mafia II: Director's Cut* on OS X, you can experience every sight and sound of an Italian-American hoodlum's existence.

Mafia II is, nominally a sandbox game inasmuch as, if you want to, you can freely explore the streets of Empire Bay (the fictional New York-style setting) as much as you like. But in truth, there's not a great deal to do outside the main story mode other than kick the hell out of people, get involved in police chases and modify your vehicles and wardrobe.

> *"With the arrival of Mafia II on OS X, you can experience every sight and sound of an Italian-American hoodlum's existence"*

No, the real draw here is the central narrative and how that plays out in the glorious realised environment of Empire Bay. You take on the role of Vito Sacletta, a Sicilian-born immigrant to Empire Bay whose youthful, criminal exuberance lands him in the armed forces and fighting in the Second World War. On being sent home on leave, Vito hooks up with his old friend Joe, who arranges an illegal discharge from the army. And so begins Vito's journey from lowly mafia footsoldier to made man.

Film world

The developers have clearly placed all the emphasis here on creating a believable cinematic period piece as everything, visually, is remarkably authentic and immersive. The extensive cut scenes, beautifully detailed character models and faultless scripting and voice-acting combine to create the sense that you're taking part in your favourite gangster flick.

Sure, it plays to a number of character clichés, but it does so with enormous skill. What's more, Empire Bay itself is an utterly convincing place, beautifully designed, crammed with period detail and populated by citizens whose clothing and demeanour change with the seasons and times of day. Even the soundtrack faithfully evokes the era, with war bulletins and big-band tunes constantly humming out of your car radio.

With such a convincing game world to explore, the missions themselves could have got away with being fairly weak, but this is far from the case. With the emphasis on shooting, hand-to-hand combat and stealth, Vito is required to cruise the streets, bars, dives and docks of the city. Here he must carry out a multitude of tasks, from giving lifts to (not so) innocent old ladies, to extorting money, cracking safes, selling contraband, and performing acts of despicable violence as he climbs the greasy pole. If you can stomach the moral vacuum in which you'll be living, it's a truly beguiling experience. And because this is the Director's cut, you also get an additional three chapters of formally downloadable content included, to add a little more meat to the stew.

The main game

Unlike a *GTA* game, once the central story has concluded there's little point in continuing to troll around the city, but while it lasts, *Mafia II* will have you utterly gripped.

Andy Dyer

KEY INFO

Developer: Feral Interactive
www.feralinteractive.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6.8 **Processor:** Intel 2GHz **RAM:** 2GB **Video:** 256MB VRAM **Disk space:** 1GB

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ The city is amazing
- ⊕ Superb scripting and acting
- ⊕ Compelling story
- ⊕ Varied missions
- ⊕ Downloadable content included
- ⊖ Not much sandbox action

VERDICT

★★★★★

"There's not a lot to do outside the story mode, but with a story and game world this beguiling it really doesn't matter."

Immerse yourself in a world that you can switch off to avoid getting into trouble with the missus.

»PLATFORMER

Limbo

Mac FORMAT Choice ★★★★★

£6.99 A surreal and beautiful game

KEY INFO

Developer: Playdead
http://limbogame.org

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.6.0 or later **Processor:** Intel Mac **RAM:** 1GB **Disk space:** 150MB **Video:** OpenGL 2.0 compatible card, 256MB VRAM

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Beautiful visuals
- ⊕ Surreal setting
- ⊕ Clever puzzles
- ⊕ Subtle sound effects

VERDICT

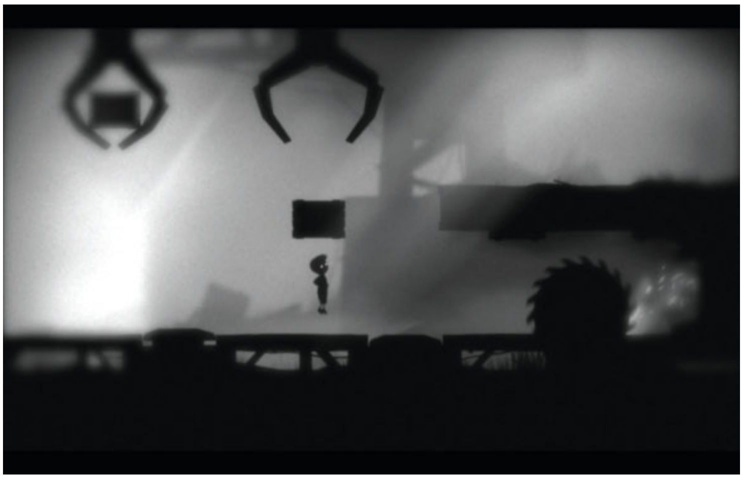
★★★★★

"Like a dark and beautiful fairytale told through shadow puppetry."

All forms of gaming are welcome as far as we're concerned. But if there ever was a game that proves you don't need big budgets, voice actors, dialogue, cut scenes, or even a plot, to tell a story… *Limbo* is it.

There is a story of course, but it's a simple one, and much of it is a mystery to the player at the outset. Your character, a boy, wakes up in a forest with little to indicate why he's there or what to do next. The object is merely to survive and escape.

The most immediately striking thing about *Limbo* is its visual style – a sort of animated take on shadow puppetry with characters and objects seen in silhouette against a bleak, grey, flickering backlit screen. It's beautiful to look at, but the approach is not simply aesthetic, as it ties into the gameplay. This is a world of shadows and uncertainty, but the silhouettes betray clues as to what needs to be done. For example, a loop on a girder suggests a handle that should be pulled. Or a translucent object is recognisable as something lighter than the objects around it.



So which would you prefer: death by crushing or sawing? Either way, it will be done beautifully.

And the puzzles get more clever as the game proceeds, with the boy having to manipulate switches, move boxes, utilise bodies of water, crank gears and swing on ropes to achieve his aims. Creatures occasionally make appearances at the periphery of the action, adding a sense of menace.

Limbo is a fleeting experience but it's as much a visual treat as a game. It contains the same joy of watching an animated short film, but with the added bonus of interaction.

Andy Dyer

»HIDDEN OBJECTS

XIII – Lost Identity

£6.99 Another game based on a classic comic

KEY INFO

Developer: Microids
www.microids.com

REQUIREMENTS

OS: OS X 10.5, **Processor:** Intel 1.0GHz **RAM:** 512MB **Disk space:** 122MB

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Slick artwork
- ⊕ Variety of puzzles
- ⊖ Translation can be poor
- ⊖ Too short

VERDICT

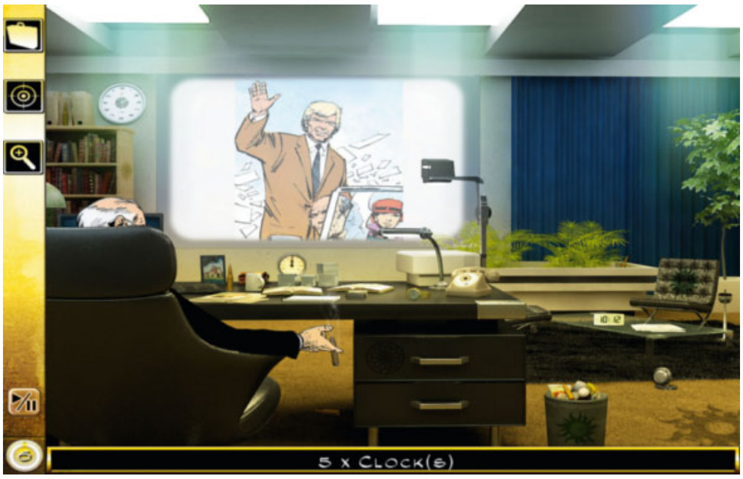
★★★☆☆

"Not a patch on Ubisoft's FPS, but this is a good enough for casual gamers."

There are three groups of people who will be interested in this latest release from adventure-game makers Microids. First, there will be the gamers who were mightily impressed by Ubisoft's stylish first-person shooter *XIII*, released way back in 2003. This particular group will be crushingly disappointed, as this game is nothing like as polished or interesting, sharing only the subject matter.

The second group is the subset of comic-book fans whose eclectic tastes have brought them into contact with the source material – a comics series created by Belgians Jean Van Hamme and William Vance.

The third group is casual gamers. *XIII – Lost Identity*, you see, is pretty much a straight-up hidden-object game, albeit one with a convoluted plot and a number of curious mini games thrown in.



A mini game in which you have to shoot a bunch of blokes. Not entirely sure why. Ah well.

Graphically it's quite arresting with the detailed locations and cut scenes offering visual interest. In addition, the storyline is sufficiently engaging (it's *The Bourne Identity* essentially) to maintain the player's attention throughout – although it has to be said, some of the mistranslated dialogue is excruciating to read.

The mini games that punctuate the object-finding missions are rather pleasing. For example, you will be called upon to assemble a gun, disarm a bomb, complete jigsaw-style puzzles and so on.

Take away the comic-book theme and this would be fairly ordinary. As it stands, it's a perfectly good enough way to kill a few hours.

Andy Dyer

SAVE ENERGY in style

A breakthrough in eco-charging

The MUSHROOM Green ZERO is the most ergonomic charger of the range. To start charging, just tap the green mushroom once with your hand or foot. Once the device is fully charged it shuts down to ZERO idle power to save energy and batteries.
It also features a compact design and integrated cable reel.

Green ZERO technology | Zero stand-by consumption | Compatible with iPhone, iPod, iPad, cellphones...

ZERO STAND-BY 0 CONSUMPTION

PRESS
APPUYER
PULSAR

Eco-friendly innovation at it's best

18 29 57
2009
12

Made from a solid matt metal with a soft silicone support

The Osun Metal Dock is a highly stylish dock that will allow you to synchronise and charge your iPhone 4S/4 with your PC or Mac. It is made from a solid matt metal which weighs 100g and also has a soft silicone support which lines the interior and protects your iPhone 4S/4 whilst in the dock.

Can be used in both horizontal and vertical orientations

The Dock can be used in both horizontal and vertical orientations and is highly stable thanks to where the cable attaches to the dock itself.

Ultra-compact design perfectly complements the iPhone 4S/4 design

The Dock itself has a very small footprint, measuring just 60 x 60 x 20mm and is therefore highly portable. The 1 metre USB cable is long enough to sync from wherever you choose.

Green ZERO technology | Zero stand-by consumption | Universal for iPhone, iPod Touch, iPod...

ZERO STAND-BY 0 CONSUMPTION

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good design and technology for your mobile's life

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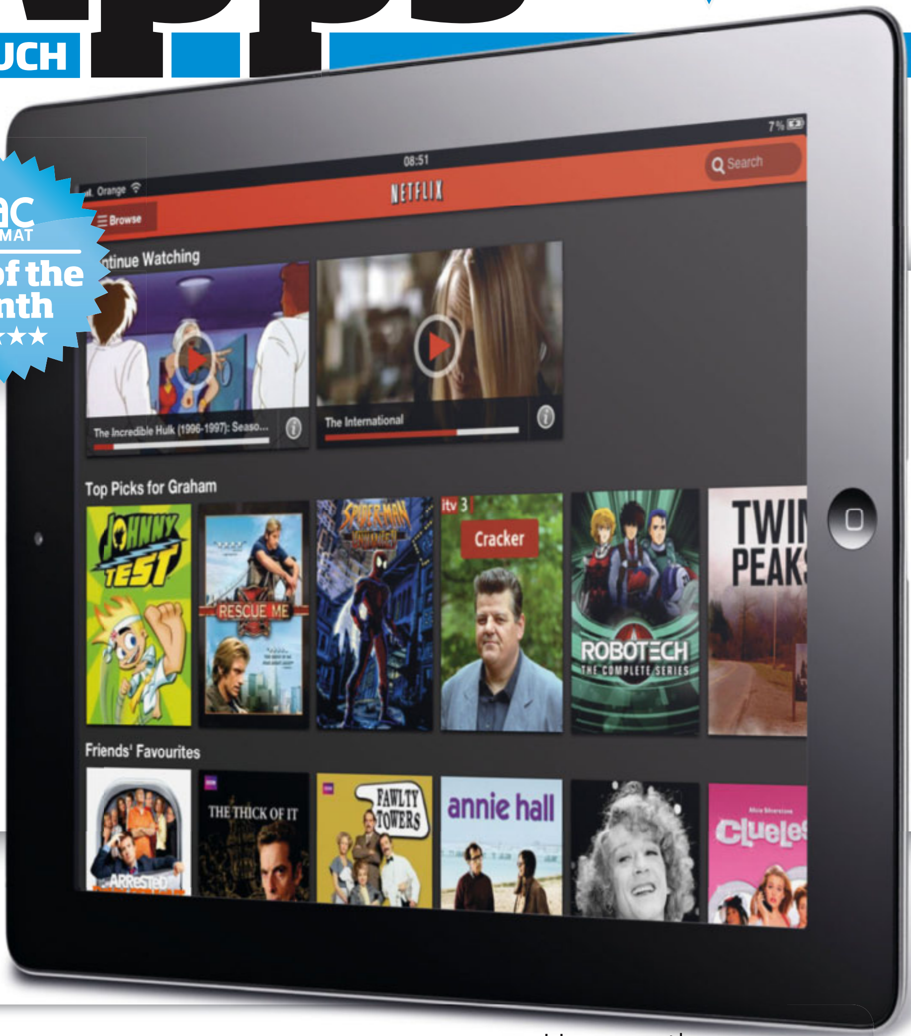
World of Apps

Reviews by: Graham Barlow, Andy Dyer, Matthew Bolton, Tim Hardwick

>iPAD >iPHONE >iPOD TOUCH

>> THE BEST iOS APPS HERE

Whether you've got an iPhone, iPod touch or an iPad, this is the best place to come to discover great new iOS apps and get the latest tips!



Orange
08:51
7%
NETFLIX
Browse
Search
Continue Watching
The Incredible Hulk (1996-1997): Seaso...
The International
Top Picks for Graham
JOHNNY TEST
RESCUE ME
SPIDER-MAN
itv 3
Cracker
ROBOTECH THE COMPLETE SERIES
TWIN PEAKS
Friends' Favourites
ARRESTED
THE THICK OF IT
FAWLTY TOWERS
annie hall
Clueless

Mac FORMAT
App of the month
★★★★★

Netflix

Graham recommends: "The free *Netflix* app requires a £5.99 monthly subscription, but you get unlimited access to the Netflix catalogue – you won't find the latest movies here, but you will find a huge number of quality TV shows and older movies. I've found the streaming works very well, with hardly any buffering, and there's a great selection of kids' stuff. Your account works across OS X, iOS and Apple TV, too!"

Price: £FREE **Works with:** iPad, iPhone, iPod touch

Must-have apps

Here are three apps your iOS device shouldn't be without

iBooks

£FREE Get the latest update

Developer: Apple **Works with:** iPad, iPhone, iPod touch

iBooks has just been updated to version 1.5, which features a nighttime theme for reading in the dark, a full-screen layout and a new selection of fonts to make reading easier on your eyes. We lost some purchased books during the upgrade, but we simply downloaded them again for free.

Temple Run

£FREE Be Indiana Jones

Developer: Imangi **Works with:** iPad, iPhone, iPod touch

This is a great free game for your iPhone or iPod touch, but it also works on the iPad. With a tip of the hat to Indiana Jones, your goal is to survive a run through an old ruined temple, collecting gold and avoiding pitfalls, crazy monkeys and various traps. It's simple, but well executed and strangely addictive.

Toca Kitchen

£1.49 Imaginitive kids fun

Developer: Toca Boca **Works with:** iPad, iPhone, iPod

We're big fans of the Toca Boca apps for kids because of the way they encourage imaginative play. Its latest app gets them to play chef and cook up a meal for four different guests. All the characters have different preferences. Just let your kids discover and play with it – they'll love it!

Tap! APPS | GAMES | KIT
THE iPHONE & iPAD MAGAZINE

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› New kit for iPhone, iPad & iPod touch
› Learn to use your device with our guides

FOR iPHONE, iPAD & iPOD TOUCH
Tap!
ON THE GO with iPhone & iPad
GET FIT
ZELDA

>> PUZZLE GAME

Blueprint 3D HD

£1.99 Twist again, like you did on the last puzzle

Developer: FDG Mobile Games **Version:** 1.1 **Works with:** iPad

This twisty-turny spatial awareness game has you manipulating fractured blueprint-like drawings of objects with your fingers in order to turn them back into a complete image. In its basic incarnation, it's stupidly easy, with a left-to-right flick and a bit of rotating all that's needed for most of the puzzles. Pro Mode is where the challenge is to be had, splitting images into multiple layers, each of which needs to be lined up. It's a good time-waster, though too easy to get bored of.

VERDICT

★★★☆☆

"A decent puzzle challenge in Pro mode, but samey overall."

>> WORD GAME

SpellTower

£1.49 A word game for puzzle-game junkies

Developer: Zach Gage **Version:** 2.0 **Works with:** iPhone, iPod touch, iPad

SpellTower bills itself as a word game that goes beyond the usual Scrabble clone, aiming more at being a kind of Drop7-like experience for spelling junkies. It broadly achieves that aim with gameplay based on finding words in a grid of letters, with different modes changing the rules of the game and letters that can only be used in words of certain lengths, adding difficulty. It's compelling, but we found it a little dry after a while. Where's the arcade mode featuring power-ups?

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"An engrossing word game with a classic puzzle heart."

>> MOVIE ANIMATOR

Smoovie

£2.99 Animate objects with nothing but your iPad

Developer: Open Planet Software **Version:** 1.01 **Works with:** iPad

Smoovie is a stop-motion movie creator with the aim of making it as easy as possible to create the next Wallace and Gromit. Using only an iPad 2 (it needs the camera) and *Smoovie*, you can bring something inanimate to life. You take the pictures, with 'onion-skin' overlays helping you to get the amount of movement right, reorder the scenes, add music, play the film back and share to YouTube. It's easy to use, but we wish you could use a better camera if you wanted.

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A great simple way to start a stop-motion obsession."

>> SOCIAL NETWORKING

Stamped

£FREE A social sorting of the wheat from the chaff

Developer: Stamped Inc **Version:** 1.0.3 **Works with:** iPhone, iPod touch

Stamped takes the idea of Facebook's Like button or Google's +1 and creates a whole new social app focusing just on that. The idea is that you share only the best stuff you come across in categories such as movies, books and restaurants – a concept reinforced by the fact that you can only share 100 things initially. If others like what you've put up, you get more share credits. It's well thought-out and easy to use, but its long-term usefulness will depend on its popularity.

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"A clever idea, provided your friends have impeccable taste!"

Apps round-up

Tim's guide to music-related apps now available on the App Store:

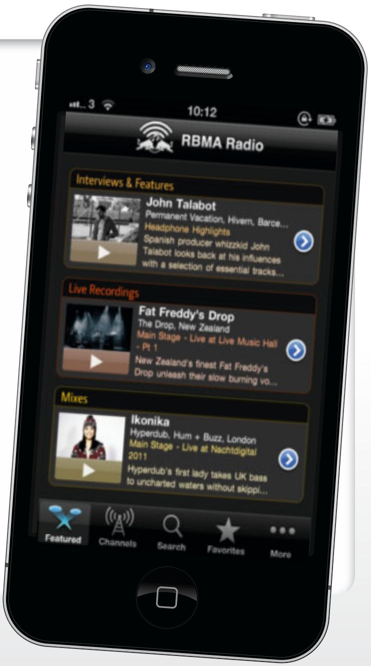
This month I thought I'd take us on a short trek through the App Store in search of anything that promises to enhance the lives of music lovers.

First up we have ***Songkick Concerts* (£FREE, Songkick.com)**. This app scans your iPod music library and uses your location to deliver listings of local gigs by your favourite bands. You also get listings of any other concerts in your area, each one serving as a portal to order tickets and share your discovery with others. A useful app indeed.

The Red Bull Music Radio website offers interviews, features, DJ mixes and live recordings from clubs and festivals worldwide. ***RBMA Radio* (£FREE, NOUS)** is the companion app to this delectable source, enabling you to stream thousands of shows live and on-demand. You can browse the archive by artist or genre, bookmark favourites and recommend shows to your friends.

Starting to get sick of that playlist endlessly repeated on the radio? ***Gimme Music* (£Free, Aedeas Group)** could be right up your street. Each day the app populates with new songs in various genres. Simply tap on any given track to listen; tap again for a link to buy on the iTunes Store. There's no real logic to its song selections, but that could be to your benefit: you might hit on a great tune from an artist you wouldn't otherwise entertain.

Gimme Music's serendipity is cute. Who knows – a brilliant sonic discovery could well be in the offing.



10:12
RBMA Radio

Interviews & Features
John Talabot
Permanent Vacation, Hivern, Barce...
Headphone Highlights
Spanish producer whizzkid John Talabot looks back at his influences with a selection of essential tracks...

Live Recordings
Fat Freddy's Drop
The Drop, New Zealand
Main Stage - Live at Live Music Hall - Pt 1
New Zealand's finest Fat Freddy's Drop unleash their slow burning vo...

Mixes
Ikonika
Hyperdub, Hum + Buzz, London
Main Stage - Live at Nachtdigital 2011
Hyperdub's first lady takes UK bass to uncharted waters without skippi...

Maximise iMessage

How to send and receive from different addresses

KEY INFO

DIFFICULTY
Beginner

TIME NEEDED
20 minutes

WHAT YOU'LL NEED
iOS 5 devices, Wi-Fi/3G

Apple's *iMessage* is the system that lets you send text and picture messages between your iPhone, iPad or iPod touch and anyone else's – provided they're running iOS 5.

The messages are sent over the internet, which means they're free provided you don't overshoot your data limit, and your device needs to be connected to the web, either using Wi-Fi or 3G.

The great thing about *iMessage* is that you can set it up to receive at several email addresses, as well as your phone number (if you have an iPhone). And messages you send can either come from your phone number or an email address. We're going to show you how to set this up below.

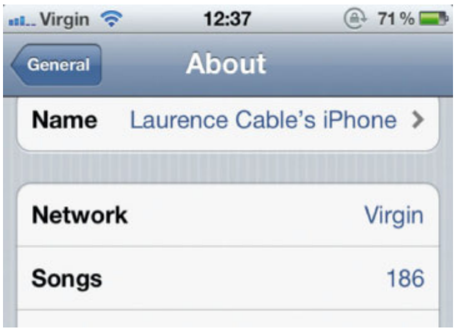
Virgin
13:02
77 %
Messages
Matthew Bolton
Edit
Email
FaceTime
Contact
iMessage
25 Nov 2011 11:47
Hey look what we just got sent to us in the Tap! office!

Save me a monster!

Which one?

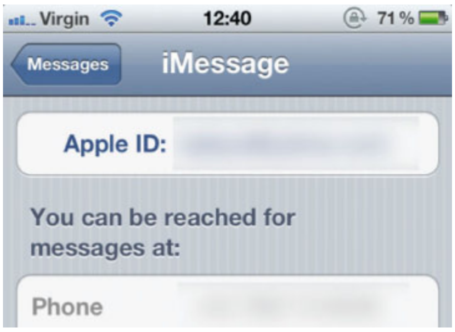
Delivered
iMessage
Send

HOW TO / Send and receive iMessages at different addresses


Virgin
12:37
71 %
General
About
Name: Laurence Cable's iPhone
Network: Virgin
Songs: 186

01 Running iOS 5?

Make sure you're running iOS 5 by tapping Settings > General > About and checking that the **Version** entry starts with a 5. If not, plug your device into your computer, open *iTunes*, click it under **Devices**, then click **Check for Update** on the right.

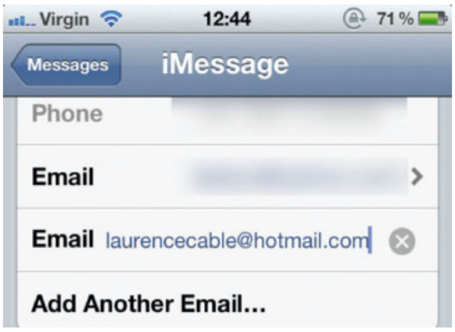

Virgin
12:40
71 %
Messages
iMessage
Apple ID:

You can be reached for messages at:

Phone

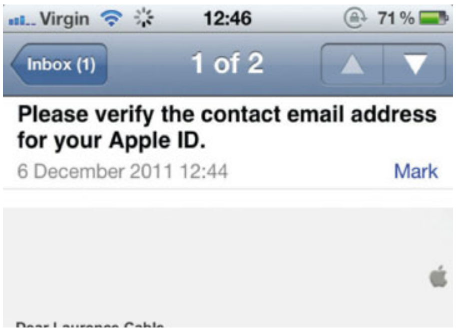
02 Current addresses

Now tap the Home button, followed by Settings > Messages and make sure *iMessage* is set to **On** at the top. Now scroll down to look for the **Receive At** box. Tap this to see the addresses that others can use to send you iMessages on.


Virgin
12:44
71 %
Messages
iMessage
Phone
Email
Email laurencecable@hotmail.com
Add Another Email...

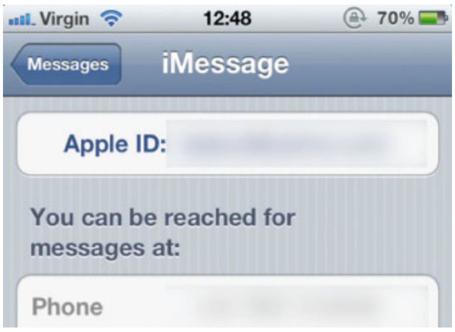
03 Add another address

Let's say you've got another email address you want to add to this list. Tap **Add Another Email...** below and type in the full address. Then tap **Return** and the word 'Verifying' will appear alongside that address. Now check the inbox for that mail account.


Virgin
12:46
71 %
Inbox (1)
1 of 2
Please verify the contact email address for your Apple ID.
6 December 2011 12:44
Mark

04 Check your email

All being well, you'll get an email from Apple asking you to verify that you own that email address. Open the message, then tap **Verify Now**. Then, type in your Apple ID and password and tap **Verify Address**. You'll see a confirmation that it's been a success.

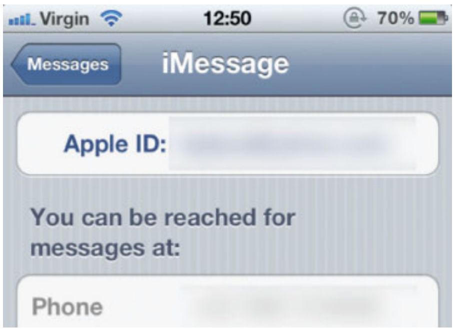

Virgin
12:48
70%
Messages
iMessage
Apple ID:

You can be reached for messages at:

Phone

05 Ready to go

Tap Home > Settings > Messages > Receive At and you'll see that your additional address now says **Email** next to it. This means that when someone tries to send a message to you on that address, it'll show up in your iPhone, iPad or iPod touch's *Messages* app.


Virgin
12:50
70%
Messages
iMessage
Apple ID:

You can be reached for messages at:

Phone

06 Caller ID

Below is the **Caller ID** section. Tap to choose which address or phone number you'd like your messages to come from. It's best to use an email address, since messages sent from and to a number are tied to the handset. Email-linked iMessages can sync between many devices. ●

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› The latest essential apps and games
› New kit for iPhone, iPad & iPod touch
› Learn to use your device with our guides

»SANDBOX

Grand Theft Auto III

£2.99 Get your thug life on iOS now!

KEY INFO

Developer: Rockstar Games Inc
Version: 1.0
Works with: (Universal) iPad, iPhone, iPod touch, iOS 4.3 or later

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Liberty City is great
- ⊕ Masses of challenges
- ⊕ Unashamedly shameful
- ⊖ No manual camera control

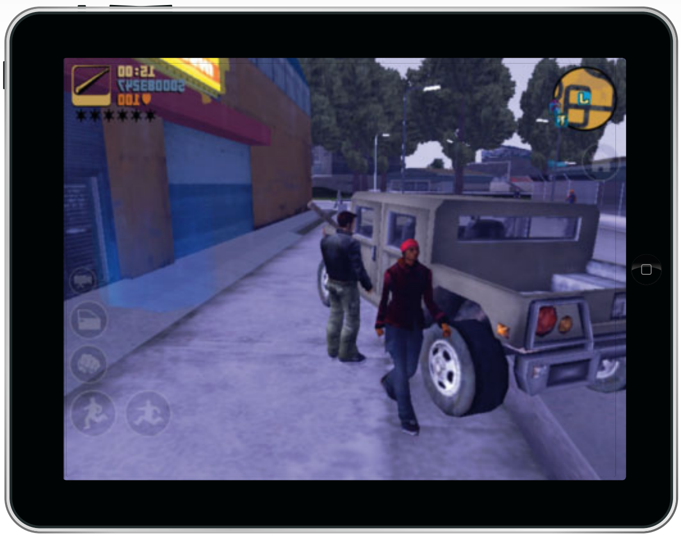
VERDICT

★★★★★

"Finally iOS gamers get the real deal. A proper classic."

The first thing to remember about this game is that it is a port of an 11-year-old game, so graphically it's not the best-looking 3D on iOS. In addition there's no right analog stick for manual camera control, so playing it feels distinctly retro. But while it feels dated, there's no disguising what a wonderfully designed experience it is.

Liberty City itself is such a vibrant living environment, teeming with punchy, sassy citizens, constant flows of traffic, and gritty networks of freeways, apartment blocks, open public spaces and claustrophobic ghettos with the ever-present threat of violence. It's a convincing setting that becomes all the more real as you gain an intimate knowledge of the place.



Nice Hummer. If you see a car you fancy... just take it. Ah, the joys of being morally ambiguous.

The sandbox gameplay is handled equally well. It's a superb balance of freedom and narrative through-story constructed of a series of missions that see your character performing all manner of activities. These include ferrying around criminal figures, dishing out punishment beatings, and getting involved in large-scale exchanges of gunfire. Yes, it's tasteless. And yes, the characters are painted with broad brush strokes. But it's executed with flair and enthusiasm, and it's one of those games that stays with you not as a challenge you once faced, but a fascinating place you once lived in.

»ACTION

Infinity Blade II

£4.99 Groundhog Day with broadswords

KEY INFO

Developer: Chair Entertainment Group
Version: 1.0.2
Works with: iPad, iPhone 3GS or better, iPod touch 3rd Gen or better, iOS 4.0 or later

PROS & CONS

- ⊕ Beautiful visuals
- ⊕ Impressive enemies
- ⊕ Finessed combat
- ⊖ Repetitive gameplay

VERDICT

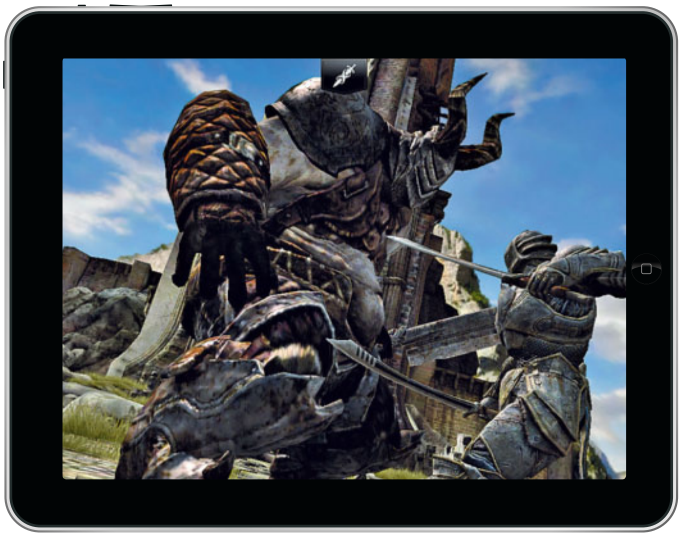
★★★★☆

"More of the same, but with great tweaks and embellishments."

Normally if a game's forced us into the same situation over and over again we'd be up in arms about its repetitive nature. Oddly, developer Chair's *Infinity Blade* did exactly this to a rapturous critical response.

Surely they wouldn't be cheeky enough to try selling us the same formula a second time? Erm, yes, they would. In fact they have. And to our shock and delight, we've been totally won over by this sequel also.

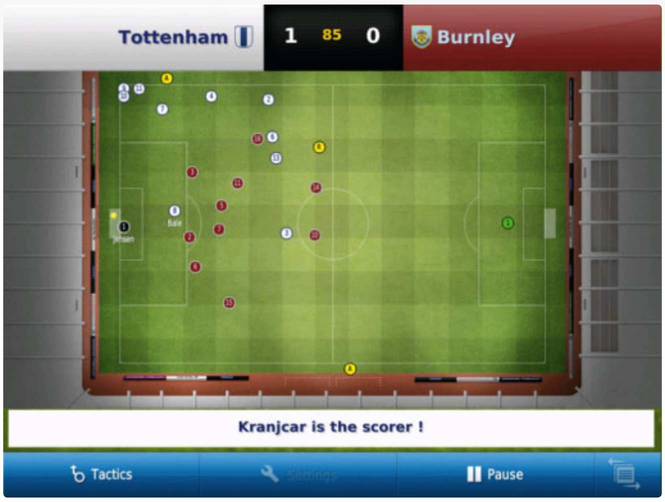
There are enough new features and improvements to the original recipe to make this a fresh experience. After the opening stages, during which the God King takes back the Infinity Blade and the player is slain, you find yourself resurrected. You must then travel to the top tower of a castle, fighting inhabitants along the way, until you find the creator of the Infinity Blade.



That is one huge, miserable, horny dude. Fear not, he's easily beaten in the early stages though.

The castle is a masterpiece of epic desolation that changes subtly each time your hero returns. The combat itself has been finessed. You can now choose various weapon types leading to different fighting styles. In addition, by collecting credits and gems, you can enhance and upgrade your weapons and abilities, although each time you level up, so do the enemies you'll face.

Whether this same formula can stretch to a third game without a rethink... we're doubtful. But this is a pleasingly tasteful and satisfying evolution of an already excellent idea.



Experienced FM players may yearn for the scope of the desktop version.

>>SPORT SIM

Football Manager Handheld 2012

£6.99 A game of two halves or merely half a game?

Developer: Sega America **Version:** 3.1 **Works with:** iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, iOS 3.0 or later

The app version of *Football Manager* is more of a dip-in experience than the desktop version. You still manage your team through stats, but some fiddlier parts are gone. The interface changes aren't all for the better, though – some options need several taps to get to, which can be annoying. The 2D match engine is here, though, even if it does show less than in the desktop version. The *FM* thrill still remains, but experienced players may find it constricting.

VERDICT

★★★½☆

"The same game and the same thrill – all made simpler."

>>AGGREGATOR

Poly

69p Turn photos into funky geometrical art

Developer innoiz Inc Version 1.0.1 **Works with** iPad

This app enables you to create abstract art from your photographs. You start by drawing points on your picture, which are then connected into triangles and given a colour based on the original drawing. This process is fiddly at first, but with a bit of practice you'll soon be creating bold, pointy artwork that's pleasing on the eye. The minimal interface keeps it all fairly simple, though you do get a few viewing options and drawing tools to choose from.

VERDICT

★★★★☆

"With practice, a great way to create cool abstract images."

>>ARTICLE CONDENSER

Summly

£FREE Get pertinent info from news sites – sometimes...

Developer Summly Limited **Version** 1.0.2 **Works with** iPhone, iPod touch

Summly is an app that would be indispensable if it worked. Like so many apps of similarly lofty ambition, though, it often falls a bit short. You install a bookmarklet in mobile *Safari*, and when you get to an article you don't have time to read, hit the bookmark and *Summly* opens and sums it up in three bullet points. For short articles, it works fairly well, but any long-form writing gets pretty mangled. It can also summarise Google searches, but we didn't find that very helpful.

VERDICT

★★½☆☆

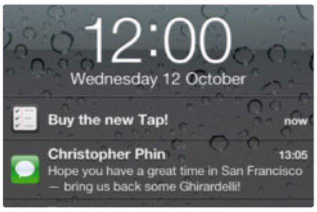
"A great idea that falls short of being useful for longer text."

Essential iOS Tips & tricks

Explore the new features of iOS 5 and the iPhone

01 Recent tabs

Apple has added tabbed browsing to *Safari* on the iPad, but there is a danger of accidentally closing a tab instead of switching between them. If this happens, just tap and hold the new tab button to see a list of recently closed tabs!



12:00
Wednesday 12 October

Buy the new Tap! now

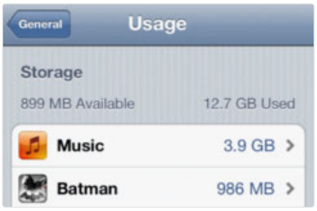
Christopher Phin 13:05
Hope you have a great time in San Francisco – bring us back some Ghirardelli!

02 Notifications

Part of the new system in iOS 5 is the list of notifications on the Lock screen, but this list has a hidden bonus feature. If you want to go straight to a notification, touch its icon and swipe right to unlock your device and open the app.

03 Volume shutter

If you prefer a real shutter button to tapping an icon on-screen when taking a photo, you can now take a photo by pressing the Volume Up button on your device. Apple's *Camera* app supports this, as do some other apps.



General
Usage
Storage
899 MB Available 12.7 GB Used
Music 3.9 GB
Batman 986 MB

04 Space hog

If you need to delete something to make space, but aren't sure what, go to Settings > General > Usage. You'll see a list of apps and how much space each is taking up, so you'll know if it's music, photos or games that's the space filler.

AHEAD OF THE CURVE

Get the best apps before your mates with **Tap!**, the world's first true magazine for iPad

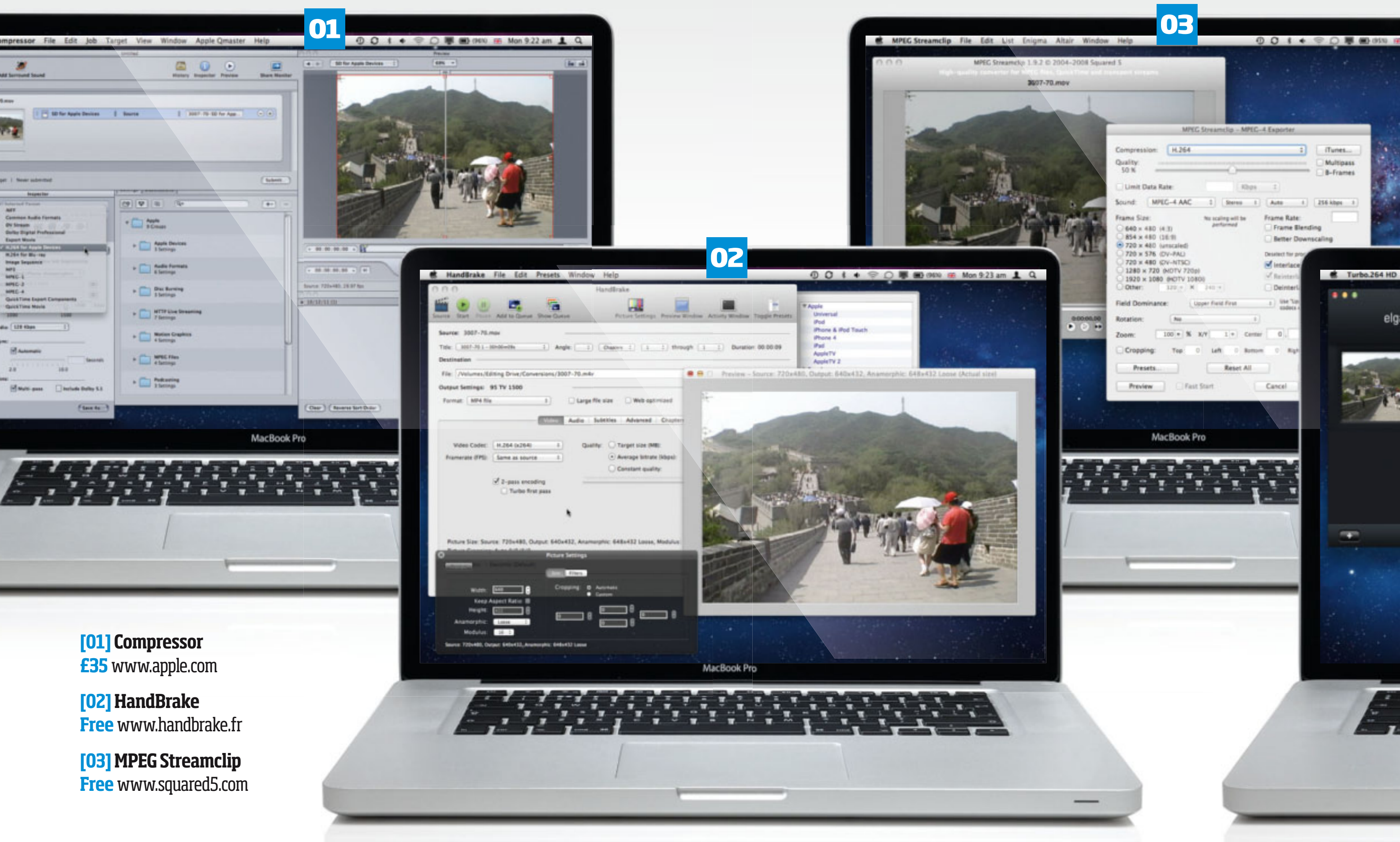
New APP edition

iPad
12:00
100%
WELCOME: A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR
APPS | GAMES | KIT
Tap!
THE iPHONE & iPAD MAGAZINE
ISSUE 13
THE 10 BEST APPS TO...
GET FIT
ON THE GO with iPad & iPhone
oyster
BETTER APPS
Replace all the default apps with ones that do even more!
TAP FOR MORE!

See kit from all angles, watch games in action and get the apps you want in seconds!

www.tapmag.co.uk/app

Available on the App Store



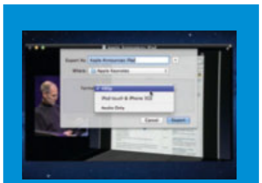
[01] Compressor
£35 www.apple.com

[02] HandBrake
Free www.handbrake.fr

[03] MPEG Streamclip
Free www.squared5.com

6 of the best vid

Which is the best app available on the market today to convert a video file from one format to another?



>> DID YOU KNOW THIS?

If you need an app to perform conversions, try *QuickTime*, bundled with every Mac. But, be warned, your options are fairly limited.

Digital video file conversion is a crucial component of many a filmmaker's workflow these days. Since footage can be taken from so many different cameras, using specific formats, they often have to be altered into something that their editing package will accept.

But they're not the only ones who need to transform files to make their content compatible with a different system than the one they were originally meant for. Take Flash video for instance: it's well known that this format won't work on an iOS device because it's deemed to be too much of a drain on battery life. Most websites now offer alternatives, so it's not a major problem. But what do you do if someone sends you a Flash video that you'd like to enjoy on your iPad, for instance?

This is where video converters come in. Transforming a video file is a complex process, which often leads to a degradation of the image – the trick is to limit this loss of quality by as much as possible.

> "Transforming a video file is a complex process, which often leads to a degradation of the final image"

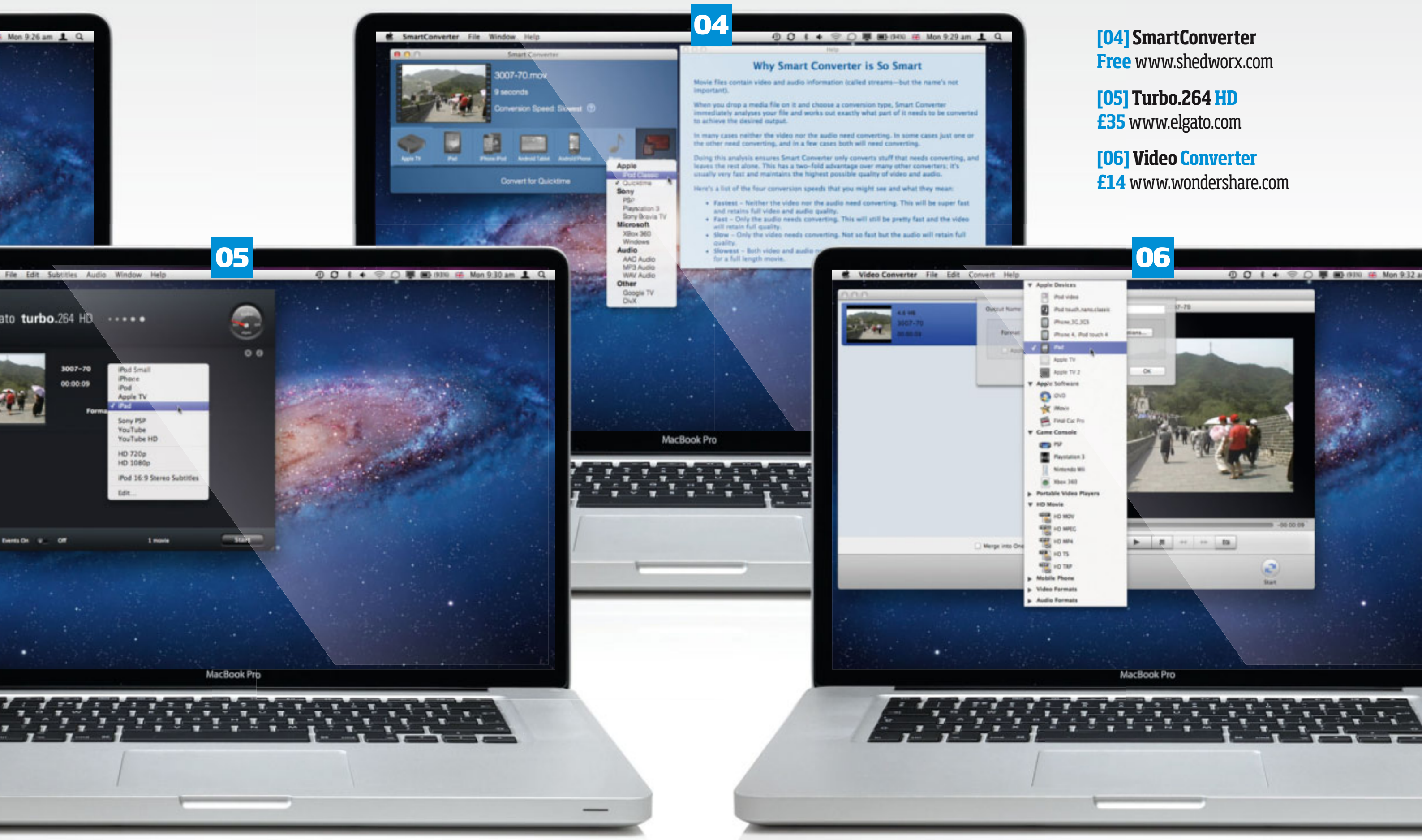
Technology's moved on in leaps and bounds since the early days and this is epitomised by the proliferation of such conversion programs online. Do a quick search for them on the Mac App Store and you'll be faced with too many to make a reliable decision on, which is why we've decided to test six of the most high-profile apps (be they available on the Mac App Store or elsewhere) and see which one is the best when it comes to ease of use, available options, speed of encoding and output quality. Those six apps are Apple's own *Compressor*, the venerable Squared5's *MPEG Streamclip*, *HandBrake*, Systemic's *Smart Converter*, Elgato's *Turbo.264 HD* and Wondershare's *Video Converter*.

Steve Paris

[04] SmartConverter
Free www.shedworx.com

[05] Turbo.264 HD
£35 www.elgato.com

[06] Video Converter
£14 www.wondershare.com


04
05
06
turbo.264 HD
3007-70.mov
9 seconds
Conversion Speed: Slowest
Convert for Quicktime
Apple
iPod Classic
Quicktime
Sony
PSP
Playstation 3
Sony Bravia TV
Microsoft
XBox 360
Windows
Audio
AAC Audio
MP3 Audio
WAV Audio
Other
Google TV
DivX
iPod Small
iPhone
iPod
Apple TV
iPad
Sony PSP
YouTube
YouTube HD
HD 720p
HD 1080p
iPod 16:9 Stereo Subtitles
Video Converter
File
Edit
Convert
Help
Apple Devices
Apple Software
Game Console
Portable Video Players
HD Movie
Mobile Phone
Video Formats
Audio Formats
MacBook Pro

Why Smart Converter is So Smart

Movie files contain video and audio information (called streams—but the name's not important).

When you drop a media file on it and choose a conversion type, Smart Converter immediately analyses your file and works out exactly what part of it needs to be converted to achieve the desired output.

In many cases neither the video nor the audio need converting. In some cases just one or the other need converting, and in a few cases both will need converting.

Doing this analysis ensures Smart Converter only converts stuff that needs converting, and leaves the rest alone. This has a two-fold advantage over many other converters: it's usually very fast and maintains the highest possible quality of video and audio.

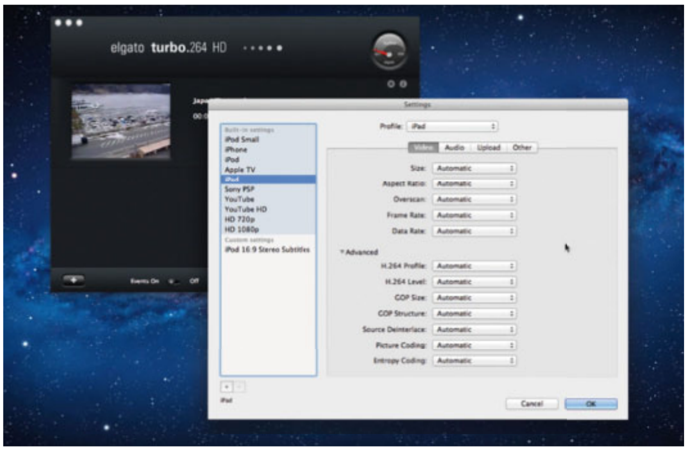
Here's a list of the four conversion speeds that you might see and what they mean:

- Fastest – Neither the video nor the audio need converting. This will be super fast and retains full video and audio quality.
- Fast – Only the audio needs converting. This will still be pretty fast and the video will retain full quality.
- Slow – Only the video needs converting. Not so fast but the audio will retain full quality.
- Slowest – Both video and audio n for a full length movie.

eo converters

VIDEO CONVERTERS / At a glance

	Compressor	HandBrake	MPEG Streamclip	SmartConverter	Turbo.264 HD	Video Converter
Price	£35	Free	Free	Free	£35	£14
Size	588.5MB	18.4MB	3.1MB	21.1MB	88.3MB	36.8MB
Version	4.0.1	0.9.5	1.9.2	1.3.1	1.2	2.0.2
Developer	Apple	Volunteers	Squared5	Systemic Pty	ElGato	Wondershare
Available through MAS	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Developer website	www.apple.com	www.handbrake.fr	www.squared5.com	www.shedworx.com	www.elgato.com	www.wondershare.com
Trial download avail	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	No	Yes
Convert unprotd DVD	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
iOS-compatible file	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Create other formats	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes



Profile: iPad

Size: Automatic

Aspect Ratio: Automatic

Overscan: Automatic

Frame Rate: Automatic

Data Rate: Automatic

H.264 Profile: Automatic

H.264 Level: Automatic

GOP Size: Automatic

GOP Structure: Automatic

Source Deinterlace: Automatic

Picture Coding: Automatic

Entropy Coding: Automatic

Turbo.264 HD comes up trumps with a clean interface and easy navigation.

>>TEST ONE

Ease of use

Having many options is not always a good thing

The programs we've tested that are available through the Mac App Store have the easiest interfaces. Surely a testament to Apple's design leadership? Although, interestingly enough, Apple's own *Compressor* is actually the most complex one – but that's because it also offers the most options.

The two packages available as web downloads – *MPEG Streamclip* and *HandBrake* – are also feature-rich and, as a consequence, end up looking a little complicated to the uninitiated. But they both try hard to simplify the available options by offering presets (for *HandBrake*) and extensive menus (for *MPEG Streamclip*). Try as they might, they can't beat the simplicity of just dragging a file and clicking on 'Start'.

There's actually more than one app designed with simplicity as its motto: *Turbo.264 HD* and *Smart Converter* take the crown here for a clean interface and easy options to choose from to select the right file format for your needs.

>>TEST RESULTS

Compressor	★★☆☆☆
HandBrake	★★★☆☆
MPEG Streamclip	★★☆☆☆
SmartConverter	★★★★★
Turbo.264 HD	★★★★★
Video Converter	★★★★☆

>>TEST TWO

Available options

How easy is it for the user to tweak their app?

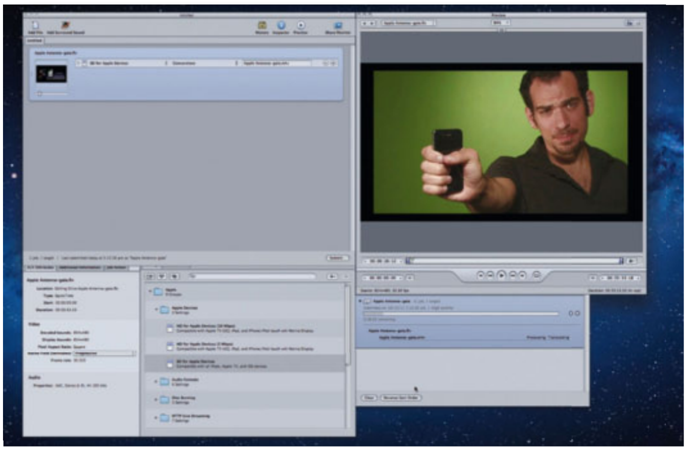
Not surprisingly, the simplest programs are the ones who offer the fewest options. Take *Smart-Converter* for instance: aside from the row of icons at the bottom, you have no customisation features available to you.

Video Converter looks simple, but you can modify each preset. You can also crop your footage, trim it and apply simple effects to your clip – although this may be that program's least-used feature as you'd most likely be applying effects with your video-editing package. *Turbo.264 HD's* option may appear limited, but select the Edit command and you'll be graced with numerous options, even embedding subtitles to your converted file (as long as they were present in the original).

HandBrake is incredibly flexible: you have access to either basic parameters to improve the quality or speed up the conversion, preserve chapter markers or subtitles, but if this isn't enough, there's also an Advanced tab.

>>TEST RESULTS

Compressor	★★★★★
HandBrake	★★★★★
MPEG Streamclip	★★★★☆
SmartConverter	★☆☆☆☆
Turbo.264 HD	★★★☆☆
Video Converter	★★★☆☆



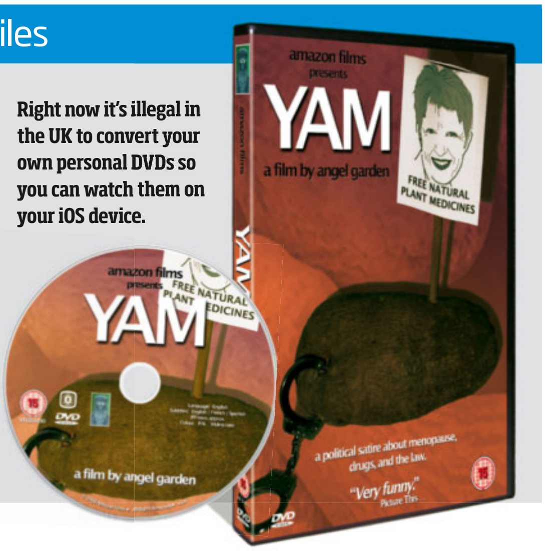
There's no shortage of options availabel in Apple's Compressor.

>>HOW WE TESTED / The legality of converting video files

There's no problem with converting videos you made from one format to another, but matters can become a little complex if you start playing around with clips made by others. If you live in the UK, you have to cope with extremely antiquated laws that make it illegal to convert audio-CDs you own into iPod-compatible tracks. Commercial DVDs, which all come with sophisticated copy protection systems, are also covered by that law.

This most likely explains why apps available from the Mac App Store cannot convert DVDs, even those you made yourself with *iDVD*: there's a guideline that forbids this feature from existing.

Whether you agree or not with the law is irrelevant: right now, converting a DVD you own so you can watch its content on an iOS device is illegal in the UK. There are plans on updating this law to make this process legal, as long as you own the DVD and it's for your personal use. However, the wheels of the legal and governmental system often move at a glacial pace and as of this writing, nothing has yet changed.


amazon films presents
YAM
a film by angel garden
FREE NATURAL PLANT MEDICINES
a political satire about menopause, drugs, and the law.
"Very funny."
Picture This
DVD

Right now it's illegal in the UK to convert your own personal DVDs so you can watch them on your iOS device.

>>TEST THREE

Encoding speed

If you've got a lot of work on, speed is of the essence

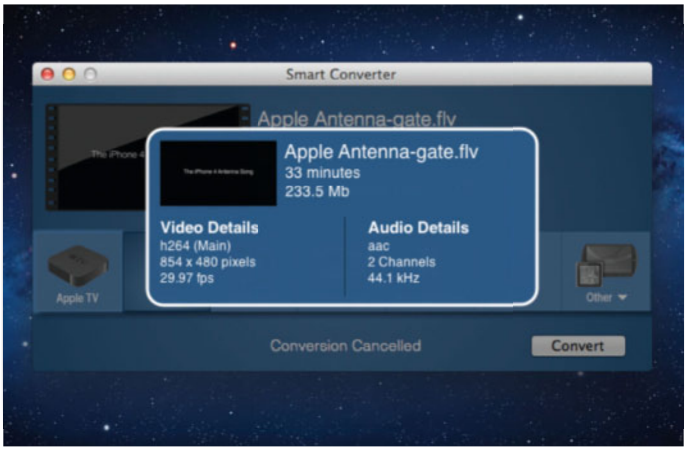
For our tests, we've used a 34-minute Flash video and transformed it into a file that can be played back on an iPad. We've chosen the standard settings when available, then used each converter in turn on the same hardware (a 2.8GHz Intel Core 2 Duo MacBook Pro with 4GB or RAM) to see which one came out on top.

Some apps have a system so when a file is finished, it'll start another. *Turbo.264 HD* and *Video Converter* allow you to do this prior to the start of a conversion, but *HandBrake* and *Compressor* let you add, reorder and remove files as they're encoding.

The fastest was *Smart Converter* at just over a minute, but that's because it was clever enough to recognise that the embedded content within the Flash file was already formatted as H.264, which is compatible with the iPad, so it simply updated the audio and it was good to go. None of the others figured this out.

>>TEST RESULTS

Compressor	★☆☆☆☆
HandBrake	★★★★☆
MPEG Streamclip	★★★☆☆
SmartConverter	★★★★★
Turbo.264 HD	★★★★☆
Video Converter	★★☆☆☆



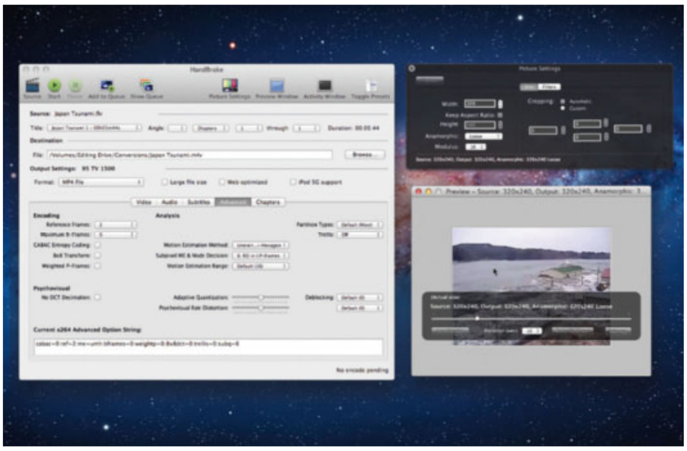
Apple Antenna-gate.flv
33 minutes
233.5 Mb

Video Details
h264 (Main)
854 x 480 pixels
29.97 fps

Audio Details
aac
2 Channels
44.1 kHz

Conversion Cancelled

SmartConverter impressed in the speed test, thanks to a clever short cut.



Handbrake excelled when it came to encoding quality, compared to the others.

>>TEST FOUR

Output quality

After the conversions, how good did the results look?

Speed may be an important factor when judging a video converter, but if the resulting file looks awful, then you've just wasted your time and your Mac's processing power. In order to test this fairly, we've had *SmartConverter* process a different type of file since it cleverly avoided altering the video in the previous test.

In this test, we did our best to compare the original with its copy and see if we could discern any imperfection. The conversions made with *MPEG Streamclip* and *Video Converter* were quite blocky when having to render large sections of the same or similar colour. *Smart Converter's* results were disappointingly poor, which means that app may be best suited to turn H.264-based Flash videos into proper H.264 ones. *HandBrake's* encoding was outstanding and even bested others whose converted files were twice as large, which means that the program's compression algorithms are truly excellent.

>>TEST RESULTS

Compressor	★★★★☆
HandBrake	★★★★★
MPEG Streamclip	★★☆☆☆
SmartConverter	★★★☆☆
Turbo.264 HD	★★★★☆
Video Converter	★★★☆☆

>>THE WINNER / HandBrake is king

Despite its odd choice of name and the mysteries around the pineapple and cocktail as its choice of icon, *HandBrake* is the best video converter on the market. It's one of the fastest available, and its quality, even when using presets, is remarkable. But what makes this program stand out from the crowd is the sheer number of options at your disposal, which helps you create even smaller-sized files while preserving the quality as much as possible (even at half the standard quality, the results were still impressive). It has a powerful queuing system so you can set up a series of files and let *HandBrake* work through the night for you, it can convert non-copy protected DVDs, and, best of all, it's free.

>>FINAL RESULTS

Compressor	★★☆☆☆
HandBrake	★★★★★
MPEG Streamclip	★★☆☆☆
SmartConverter	★★★☆☆
Turbo.264 HD	★★★★☆
Video Converter	★★☆☆☆

Mac FORMAT
Winner!

180 PAGES OF THE VERY BEST NEW APPS FOR YOUR iPHONE
the 2012
iPhone
app guide
231 amazing apps reviewed & rated!
Do more with your iPhone today!
PLUS...
Expert tips and tricks
iPhone accessories
Your guide to iOS 5
From the makers of
Mac Format
Tap!
Future
ISBN 1-858704-42-1

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"The entry-level 21.5-inch iMac is a bargain at £999"

APPLE'S ICONIC iMAC IS AN OBJECT OF DESIRE P120

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Multimedia software 126

Buyers' Guide

ALL THE BEST KIT TO GO WITH YOUR MAC

Graham Barlow
Editor-in-Chief

As 2012 gets into full swing we're all wondering what we can expect from Apple. While processor speeds and memory keeps improving with each new Mac, Apple hasn't radically changed the design of any of any its Macs for a while now, and I'm not sure it will this year either. In his quest for perfection it's almost like Jonathan Ive has whittled down the design of the Mac until there's simply nothing left to improve. Sure, Apple might be able to shave a millimetre off the thickness of its next MacBook Air, or iMac, but I don't think the design will radically change. The real evolutions now will be found in the software space – expect improvements to the operating system and even better apps. It would be great to see Apple release something as visually stunning as the old iMac G4 with its flexible, adjustable arm, but I think that sleek, stylish, bevel-edged aluminium Macs are here to stay.

>> BUYING ADVICE YOU CAN TRUST

Our mission is to ensure that when you buy a Mac-related product, you are completely informed about its best and worst features. We have a cast-iron policy of editorial independence. **For the latest prices and full review see the TechRadar URL listed next to each review.**

How to buy a new Mac

Not sure which Mac to buy? We'll help you choose!

» DID YOU KNOW THIS?

The Mac Pro is also available in a Server Edition. Out of the box, it boasts a 2.8GHz CPU, two 1TB hard drives, 8GB of memory and OS X Lion Server preinstalled.

The Mac Pro offers an ATI Radeon HD 5770 with 1GB GDDR5 graphics card, a 1TB hard drive and an 18x SuperDrive.

The mid-2011 refresh brought quad-core Sandy Bridge processors to the iMac range.

Apple sells its products every which way at once. You can buy a Mac direct from the online Apple Store (http://store.apple.com/uk); from one of the growing number of bricks-and-mortar Apple Stores around the country; from official 'Apple shops' within department stores, staffed by certified Apple Solutions Consultants; and from hundreds of independent Apple Authorised Resellers and Premium Resellers, variously selling online or on the high street.

The bigger independents buy direct from Apple, while others go through a network of distributors. To find the one nearest you, go to www.apple.com/uk/buy. Given this range of outlets, shopping around for your Mac could save you money – but probably not very much. There simply isn't much profit margin for independent dealers to knock off. The Mac's popularity means Apple doesn't have to leave a big gap between its wholesale prices and Apple Store prices – effectively the minimum and maximum level at which retailers can sell their wares.

Authorised Resellers may knock a few pounds off Apple Store prices, and can also sell you other kit at competitive prices. Although you may find fractionally lower prices online, by choosing a local dealer you could get the benefit of trying before you buy and having someone on hand to answer questions. Either way, Mac resellers tend to be very knowledgeable and keen to help.

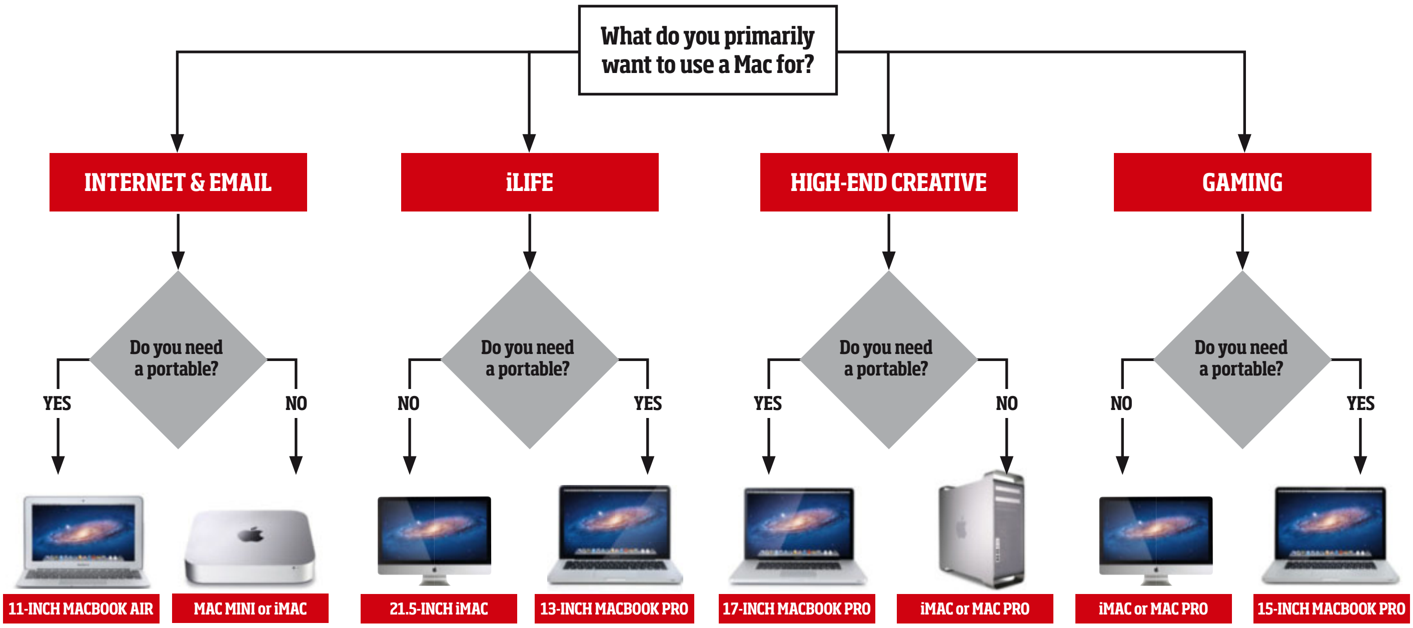
There are a couple of other ways to cut the cost of a new Mac. Business buyers can save a fortune by reclaiming the VAT and offsetting the purchase against tax. If you're not eligible, you may still qualify for a discount from Apple. Any student or teacher can get special pricing. That includes schoolkids (follow links to the Education Store for more). The reductions aren't huge, but they're worth having. For example, a top-of-the-range 27-inch iMac lists for £1,550.40, compared to the regular price of £1,649. Authorised Resellers can access these special rates and may even shave a bit more off for you.

"Cut the cost of your new Mac. Business users can save a fortune by reclaiming the VAT and offsetting the purchase against tax"

To help you find the cash, Apple also offers financing options. For consumers, this spreads the payments, though you do pay interest. For businesses, flexible leasing knocks more off your tax bill and lets you upgrade your hardware – and indeed software – when necessary without spending big chunks of capital. You can find out plenty more at www.apple.com/uk/financing.

Your budget will stretch even further with clearance, refurb and second-user deals. If you can suppress your envy of marginally newer, shinier kit, the best time to shop for a Mac is

CHOOSING A MAC / Which one is right for you?


What do you primarily want to use a Mac for?
INTERNET & EMAIL
iLIFE
HIGH-END CREATIVE
GAMING
Do you need a portable?
Do you need a portable?
Do you need a portable?
Do you need a portable?
YES
NO
NO
YES
YES
NO
NO
YES
11-INCH MACBOOK AIR
MAC MINI or iMAC
21.5-INCH iMAC
13-INCH MACBOOK PRO
17-INCH MACBOOK PRO
iMAC or MAC PRO
iMAC or MAC PRO
15-INCH MACBOOK PRO

Apple MacBooks come in a range of screen sizes, from the 11-inch Air to the 17-inch Pro.

just after Apple brings out new models. Wander down to John Lewis and you're quite likely to find the last of the old range with three-figure reductions. Do check the specs against the incoming versions, which will offer more for the same original price, but at the bottom end of the range you could pay less than the current entry-level for a perfectly good machine. Anywhere that holds Macs in stock is similarly worth a raid, and online retailers also have clearance bins.

Saving money

Apple itself has a surprisingly little-known online bargain basement at http://store.apple.com/uk/browse/home/specialdeals/mac. It's a treasure trove of cut-price kit, with some clearance items and many described as 'refurbished'. This usually means someone's bought a Mac, then changed their mind or found a problem and sent it back. Industry insiders tell us these returns often have absolutely nothing wrong with them, and in any case they're fully tested and any faults fixed before they're resold. They're guaranteed for a full year, extendable up to three years via AppleCare.

Besides deciding who to buy from, there's the tricky question of which Mac to pick. You can have a MacBook Pro, MacBook Air, Mac mini, iMac or Mac Pro. Most Mac families offer several standard models, plus plenty of built-to-order options, adding up to hundreds of possibilities.

By comparing the prices of different configurations – easily done at http://store.apple.com/uk – you can suss out the best value. For example, the entry-level 21.5-inch iMac is a bargain at £999. If you want a higher spec, the next option doubles the hard disk space and adds a more powerful graphics card, but it's an extra £250. However, you're not limited to the preset models. By clicking the Select button, you can tweak the listed specifications to create your own Mac. The only downside is that you'll need to allow a week or two for your own personal Mac to arrive.

Just think of it as an exercise in delayed gratification.

> *"There's the tricky question of which Mac to pick. You can plump for a MacBook Pro, MacBook Air, Mac mini, iMac or Mac Pro"*

DID YOU KNOW THIS?

The latest MacBook Pros, released in October 2011, have new Sandy Bridge processors, great new graphics solutions and the new ultra-fast Thunderbolt connectivity port.

How to choose the perfect Mac

Let us help you make the right purchase. Here are your options…

iMac

Updated
May
2011

21.5-inch 2.5GHz

£999

- 2.5GHz quad-core Intel Core i5
- 21.5-inch glossy widescreen at 1,920x1,080 pixels • 4GB RAM (expandable to up to 16GB) • 500GB hard drive
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive
- AMD Radeon HD 6750M graphics with 512MB GDDR5 memory • 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FireWire 800 port; 1x Thunderbolt port; 1xSDXC card slot • Ships with Mac OS X Lion, iLife '11, Magic Mouse, keyboard

27-inch 2.7GHz

£1,399

- 2.7GHz quad-core Intel Core i5
- 27-inch glossy widescreen at 2,560x1,440 pixels • 4GB RAM (expndable to up to 16GB)
- 1TB hard drive • 8x double-layer SuperDrive • AMD Radeon HD 6770M graphics with 512MB GDDR5 memory
- 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FireWire 800 port; 2x Thunderbolt ports; 1xSDXC card slot
- Ships with Mac OS X Lion, iLife '11, Magic Mouse, keyboard

21.5-inch 2.7GHz

£1,249

- 2.7GHz quad-core Intel Core i5
- 21.5-inch glossy widescreen at 1,920x1,080 pixels • 4GB RAM (expandable to up to 16GB) • 1TB hard drive
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive
- AMD Radeon HD 6770M graphics with 512MB GDDR5 memory • 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FireWire 800 port; 1x Thunderbolt port; 1xSDXC card slot • Ships with Mac OS X Lion, iLife '11, Magic Mouse, keyboard

27-inch 3.1GHz

£1,649

- 3.1GHz quad core Intel Core i5
- 27-inch glossy widescreen at 2,560x1,440 pixels • 4GB RAM (expandable to up to 16GB) • 1TB hard drive
- 8x double-layer SuperDrive
- AMD Radeon HD 6970M graphics with 1GB GDDR5 memory-• 4x USB 2.0 ports; 1x FireWire 800 port; 2x Thunderbolt port; 1xSDXC card slot • Ships with Mac OS X Lion, iLife '11, Magic Mouse, keyboard

Mac mini

Updated
July
2011

2.3GHz 500GB

£529

- 2.3GHz dual core Intel Core i5
- 2GB RAM (2x 1GB 1,333MHz)
- 500GB SATA, 5,400rpm HDD
- 3MB shared L3 cache
- Intel HD Graphics 3000 with 288MB of DDR3 SDRAM shared with main memory • 802.11n WiFi, Bluetooth 4.0,10/100/1000BASE-T Ethernet
- 1x Thunderbolt, 1xFireWire 800, 4x USB 2.0 ports • SDXC card reader • Lion, iLife '11
- HDMI video out with HDMI to DVI adapter • No optical drive

2.5GHz 500GB

£699

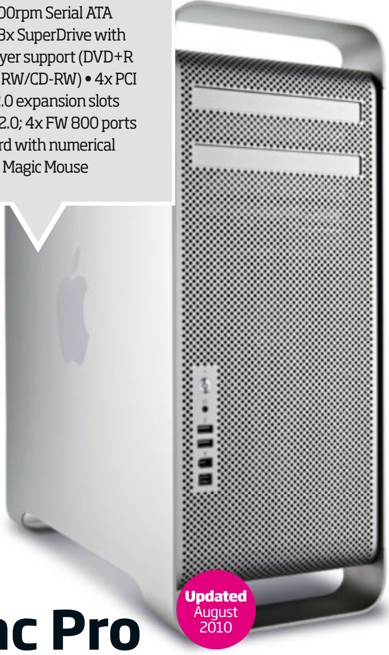
- 2.5GHz dual core Intel Core i5
- 4GB RAM (2x 2GB 1333MHz)
- 500GB SATA, 5,400rpm HDD
- 3MB shared L3 cache
- AMD Radeon HD 6630M graphics processor with 256MB of GDDR5 memory • 802.11n WiFi, Bluetooth 4.0, 10/100/1000BASE-T Ethernet
- 1x Thunderbolt, 1xFireWire 800, 4x USB 2.0 ports • SDXC card reader • Lion, iLife '11
- HDMI video out with HDMI to DVI adapter • No optical drive

Mac Pro

Quad-Core
£2,041
- 2.8GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon
- 3GB RAM (expandable to up to 16GB)
- ATI Radeon HD 5770 with 1GB of GDDR5 memory
- Two Mini DisplayPorts, one DVI port
- 1TB 7,200rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s
- 18x SuperDrive with double-layer support (DVD+R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- 4x PCI Express 2.0 expansion slots
- 5x USB 2.0; 4x FW 800 ports
- Keyboard with numerical keypad & Magic Mouse

8 -Core
£2,859
- Two 2.4GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon
- 6GB RAM (expandable to up to 32GB)
- ATI Radeon HD 5770 with 1GB of GDDR5 memory
- Two Mini DisplayPorts, one DVI port
- 1TB 7,200rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s
- 18x SuperDrive with double-layer support (DVD+R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- 4x PCI Express 2.0 expansion slots
- 5x USB 2.0; 4x FW 800 ports
- Keyboard with numerical keypad & Magic Mouse

12-Core
£4,083
- Two 2.6GHz 6-Core Intel Xeon
- 6GB RAM (expandable to up to 32GB)
- ATI Radeon HD 5770 with 1GB of GDDR5 memory
- Two Mini DisplayPorts, one DVI port
- 1TB 7,200rpm Serial ATA 3Gb/s
- 18x SuperDrive with double-layer support (DVD+R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- 3x PCI Express 2.0 expansion slots
- 5x USB 2.0; 4x FW 800 ports
- Keyboard with numerical keypad & Magic Mouse



MacBook Air

13-inch models
£1,099/£1,349
- 1.7GHz Intel Core i5 CPU
- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen at 1,440x900 pixels
- 128GB or 256GB of flash storage
- Intel HD Graphics 3000 processor
- 4GB of 1333MHz DDR3 memory
- Seven-hour battery life, or 30 days on standby
- FaceTime camera
- 2x USB 2.0 ports, Thunderbolt port, 802.11n WiFi, Bluetooth 4.0
- SD reader
- Lion and iLife '11

11-inch models
£849/£999
- 1.6GHz Intel Core i5 CPU
- 11.6-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen at 1,366x768 pixels
- 64GB or 128GB of flash storage
- Intel HD Graphics 3000 processor
- 2GB or 4GB of 1333MHz DDR3 memory
- Five-hour battery life, or 30 days on standby
- FaceTime camera
- 2x USB 2.0 ports, Thunderbolt port, 802.11n WiFi, Bluetooth 4.0
- Lion and iLife '11 preinstalled

Updated
July
2011
Updated
July
2011

MacBook Pro

13-inch 2.4GHz
£999
- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels
- 2.4GHz dual-core Intel Core i5 processor
- 7-hour battery
- 4GB (two 2GB SO-DIMMs) of 1,333MHz DDR3 memory
- 500GB, 5,400rpm hard drive
- 8x slot-loading SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- Intel HD Graphics 3000
- Mac OS X 10.7 and iLife '11
- 1x Thunderbolt port, 1x FireWire 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SDXC card slot

13-inch 2.8GHz
£1,299
- 13.3-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,280x800 pixels
- 2.8GHz dual-core Intel Core i7 processor
- 7-hour battery
- 4GB (two 2GB SO-DIMMs) of 1,333MHz DDR3 memory
- 750GB, 5,400rpm hard drive
- 8x slot-loading SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- Intel HD Graphics 3000
- Mac OS X 10.7 and iLife '11
- 1x Thunderbolt port, 1x FireWire 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SDXC card slot

15-inch 2.2GHz
£1,549
- 15.4-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,440x900 pixels
- 2.2GHz quad-core Intel Core i7, 6MB shared L3 cache
- 4GB 1,333MHz DDR3 memory
- 500GB, 5,400rpm hard drive
- 8x slot-loading SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- AMD Radeon HD 6750M graphics processor with 512MB of GDDR5 memory
- Mac OS X 10.7 and iLife '11
- 1x Thunderbolt port, 1x FW 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SDXC slot

15-inch 2.4GHz
£1,849
- 15.4-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,440x900 pixels
- 2.4GHz quad-core Intel Core i7, 6MB shared L3 cache
- 4GB 1,333MHz DDR3 memory
- 750GB, 5,400rpm hard drive
- 8x slot-loading SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- AMD Radeon HD 6770M graphics processor with 1GB of GDDR5 memory
- Mac OS X 10.7 and iLife '11
- 1x Thunderbolt port, 1x FW 800, 2x USB 2.0, 1x SDXC slot

17-inch 2.4GHz
£2,099
- 17-inch LED-backlit glossy widescreen 1,920x1,200 pixels
- 2.4GHz quad-core Intel Core i7, 6MB shared L3 cache
- 4GB 1,333MHz DDR3 memory
- 750GB, 5,400rpm hard drive
- 8x slot-loading SuperDrive (DVD±R DL/DVD±RW/CD-RW)
- AMD Radeon HD 6770M graphics processor with 1GB of GDDR5 memory
- Mac OS X 10.7, iLife '11
- 1x Thunderbolt port, 1x FireWire 800, 3x USB 2.0, 1x ExpressCard/34 slot

Updated
Oct
2011

What about an iPhone or iPad?

Apple's mobile devices are designed to sync perfectly with your Mac

» DID YOU KNOW THIS?

The new iPhone 4S is available in black or white. It features a powerful new eight-megapixel camera (60% more pixels than before), with advanced optics, a larger f/2.4 aperture and 1,080p HD video recording.

Both the iPhone and iPad have a touchscreen, come with email and web-browsing applications and are capable of running third-party apps that you can get from Apple's App Store. But the iPad isn't simply a bigger iPhone. The iPhone is first and foremost a phone, and like all mobile phones, unless you buy it on Pay as You Go (which makes the device itself much more expensive) you're going to be tied into a phone contract.

If you want all the features of the iPhone but without the phone part, then consider getting an iPod touch instead (see over the page).

If you're looking for a phone then you'll find the iPhone is designed to cover all your data needs while you're on the go, and fits in your pocket.

In contrast, the iPad is a device that sits somewhere between an iPhone and a Mac. It also comes with a 3G data contract option, but that doesn't include phone calls. The only phone calls you can make with it will be digitally, using VoIP apps, such as *Skype*. While a lot of people find the iPhone perfectly acceptable for home use, if you just need to check your email or do a quick bit of web surfing, the iPad is positively designed to be used from your sofa. It has built-in Wi-Fi, which means you can check emails and browse the web on your wireless network at home. Here it would fulfil most functions of a laptop, but don't fall into the trap of thinking of the iPad as a replacement for a home computer. It's fundamentally designed to be an accessory. You're meant to keep your data on your Mac and sync your iPad with it, not the other way around.

It does have some big advantages over a Mac laptop, though. For a start, because it uses solid-state memory it's pretty-much instant on. There's no waiting around for it to boot up. It's also lightweight, extremely portable and the perfect size to be used as an ebook reader.

The iPhone currently comes in three versions, the 3GS, iPhone 4 and iPhone 4S. The iPhone 4 and the new iPhone 4S feature a stunning 960x640 high-resolution display, making it much easier to read on-screen text. The iPhone 4S boasts a dual-core A5 processor, giving it up to twice as much power and up to seven times faster graphics. Its eight-megapixel camera is much improved, and its new Siri feature lets you operate your iPhone by speaking.

The iPad 2 comes in black and white, each in three capacities, 16GB, 32GB and 64GB, available in Wi-Fi or Wi-Fi + 3G versions. Each 3G version costs £100 more than a Wi-Fi-only model with a similar memory capacity. Prices start at £399 for the 16GB Wi-Fi version, and go up to £659 for the top-range 64GB Wi-Fi + 3G iPad.

> *"The iPad uses solid-state memory, so it's pretty-much instant on. There's no waiting around for it to boot up. It's also lightweight"*

Use your iPad 2 to surf the web, run apps, send and receive emails, and listen to your music.

3G
9:41 AM
Messages
Calendar
Photos
Camera
YouTube
Stocks
Maps
Weather
Notes
Utilities
iTunes
App Store
Settings
Phone
Mail
Safari
iPod

iOS 5 is the world's most advanced mobile-platform operating system, and has over 200 new features.

iPad 2

Updated March 2011

iPad 16GB

£399 Wi-Fi
£499 Wi-Fi + 3G

• 9.7-inch LED-widescreen, 1,024x768 pixels • 1GHz dual core Apple A5 CPU • 25Wh battery gives up to 10 hours use • 3.5mm stereo headphone jack • Built-in speaker & mic • 720p, 30 fps rear-facing camera, VGA front camera • GPS (iPad Wi-Fi + 3G only) • 241.2x185.7x8.8mm • 601g (Wi-Fi), 613g (Wi-Fi + 3G) • Accelerometer, three-axis gyro, ambient light sensor

iPad 32GB

£479 Wi-Fi
£579 Wi-Fi + 3G

• 9.7-inch LED-widescreen, 1,024x768 pixels • 1GHz dual core Apple A5 CPU • 25Wh battery gives up to 10 hours use • 3.5mm stereo headphone jack • Built-in speaker & mic • 720p, 30 fps rear-facing camera, VGA front camera • GPS (iPad Wi-Fi + 3G only) • 241.2x185.7x8.8mm • 601g (Wi-Fi), 613g (Wi-Fi + 3G) • Accelerometer, three-axis gyro, ambient light sensor

iPad 64GB

£559 Wi-Fi
£659 Wi-Fi + 3G

• 9.7-inch LED-widescreen, 1,024x768 pixels • 1GHz dual core Apple A5 CPU • 25Wh battery gives up to 10 hours use • 3.5mm stereo headphone jack • Built-in speaker & mic • 720p, 30 fps rear-facing camera, VGA front camera • GPS (iPad Wi-Fi + 3G only) • 241.2x185.7x8.8mm • 601g (Wi-Fi), 613g (Wi-Fi + 3G) • Accelerometer, three-axis gyro, ambient light sensor

iPhone

Updated October 2011

iPhone 3GS 8GB

£319 (Pay & Go)

• Available in black • 3.5-inch widescreen • 320x480 pixels • Wi-Fi (802.11b/g) • Quad-band GSM, tri-band 3G • Assisted GPS • Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR • Photo and video geotagging • Battery lasts up to 30 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 10 hours (video) • Battery lasts up to 12 hours (talktime) • 115.5x62.1x12.3mm • 135g • Requires Mac OS X 10.5.8 or later

iPhone 4 8GB

£429 (Pay & Go)

• Available in black or white • 3.5-inch widescreen • 960x640 pixels • Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n) • Quad-band GSM, tri-band 3G • Assisted GPS • Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR • Photo and video geotagging • Battery lasts up to 40 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 10 hours (video) • Battery lasts up to 14 hours (talktime) • 115.5x58.6x9.3mm • 137g • Requires Mac OS X 10.5.8 or later

iPhone 4S 16, 32 or 64GB

From £499 (Pay & Go)

• Available in black or white • 3.5-inch widescreen • 960x640 pixels • Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n) • UMTS/HSDPA/HSUPA/GSM/EDGE, 3G • Bluetooth 4.0 • Siri • Assisted GPS • Photo and video geotagging • Battery lasts up to 40 hours (audio), 10 hours (video), 14 hours (talktime) • 8MP camera • 115.5x58.6x9.3mm • 140g • Mac OS X 10.5.8 or later

>> CHOOSING AN iPOD

Updated September 2010

iPod shuffle 2GB

£40

• Up to 500 songs • No ability to display photos or videos • Available in five colours; silver, blue, green, yellow, pink • No screen, but the control pad returns • VoiceOver enables your iPod to talk to you • 3.5-mm stereo headphone jack is used for both audio out and USB charging • Battery lasts up to 15 hours • 29x31.6x8.7mm • 12.5g

Updated October 2011

iPod nano 8GB

£115

• Up to 2,000 songs • Up to 7,000 photos • Includes Nike+iPod support • Available in silver, black, blue, green, yellow, pink and red (Apple Store exclusive) • 1.54-inch diagonal Multi-Touch screen • 240x240 pixel resolution (220 pixels per inch) • Battery lasts up to 24 hours • Includes VoiceOver technology and an FM radio • 37.5x40.9x 8.78mm • 21.1g

iPod nano 16GB

£129

• Up to 4,000 songs • Up to 14,000 photos • Includes Nike+iPod support • Available in silver, black, blue, green, yellow, pink and red (Apple Store exclusive) • 1.54-inch diagonal Multi-Touch screen • 240x240 pixel resolution (220 pixels per inch) • Battery lasts up to 24 hours • Includes VoiceOver technology and an FM radio • 37.5x40.9x 8.78mm • 21.1g

Updated October 2011

iPod touch 8GB

£169

• Up to 1,750 songs • Up to 10,000 photos • Up to 10 hours of video • Available in black or white • 3.5-inch screen, 960x640 pixels • Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n, 802.11n at 2.4GHz only) • Nike + iPod support • Battery lasts up to 40 hours (audio) seven hours (video) • Video recording at 720p HD, up to 30 frames per second • 960x720 still photos • 111x58.9x7.2mm • 101g

iPod touch 32GB

£249

• Up to 7,000 songs • Up to 25,000 photos • Up to 40 hours of video • Available in black or white • 3.5-inch screen, 960x640 pixels • Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n, 802.11n at 2.4GHz only) • Nike + iPod support • Battery lasts up to 40 hours (audio) seven hours (video) • Video recording at 720p HD, up to 30 frames per second • 960x720 still photos • 111x58.9x7.2mm • 101g

iPod touch 64GB

£329

• Up to 14,000 songs • Up to 50,000 photos • Up to 80 hours of video • Available in black or white • 3.5-inch screen, 960x640 pixels • Wi-Fi (802.11b/g/n, 802.11n at 2.4GHz only) • Nike + iPod support • Battery lasts up to 40 hours (audio) seven hours (video) • Video recording at 720p HD, up to 30 frames per second • 960x720 still photos • 111x58.9x7.2mm • 101g

iPod classic 160GB

Updated September 2009

£197

• Up to 40,000 songs • Up to 25,000 photos • Up to 200 hours of video • Available in black and silver • 2.5-inch screen • 320x240 pixels • Battery lasts up to 36 hours (audio) • Battery lasts up to 6 hours (video) • 103.5x61.8x 10.5mm • 140g

Love this mag? LOVE OUR APPS!

iPad: The Essential Handbook
100 tricks and tips for iPad 2
Tap! The iPad magazine

Get them at:
www.myfavouritemagazines.co.uk/apps

Available on the App Store

KEYBOARDS & MICE

Apple Magic Trackpad

★★★★☆

Price: £60 **Reviewed:** Issue 226
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/ 713555
Key specs: 13.13x13.01x1.83cm; Bluetooth connectivity; powered by 2x AA batteries; requires Mac OS X 10.6.4 or higher

⊕ Brings the MacBook's famous gestures to Apple's desktop range
⊖ Doesn't work in pre-Snow Leopard versions of OS X

"Well conceived and beautifully executed, it's well worth a try if you use a Mac Pro, iMac or Mac mini at home or work."

Wacom Bamboo Fun P&T ★★★★☆

Price: £90 **Reviewed:** Issue 240
Full review: www.techradar.com/1029725
Key specs: 2540lpi; wireless option; gestures
⊕ Gesture support; wireless option (sold separately)
⊖ Touchpad a little slow

Logitech Solar KB K750 ★★★★½

Price: £70 **Reviewed:** Issue 242
Full review: www.techradar.com/960675
Key specs: Wireless operation; solar powered
⊕ No batteries required; Mac button layout
⊖ Some features need a driver download

PRINTERS & ALL-IN-ONES

Canon PIXMA MG8150

★★★★★

Price: £217 **Reviewed:** Issue 241
Web: www.canon.co.uk
Full review: MF Issue 241 group test
Key specs: USB, Ethernet and WiFi connectivity; PictBridge; Auto Duplex; six ink tanks; print on optical discs

⊕ Stellar print quality; comprehensive feature set; elegant and robust
⊖ Not AirPrint-compatible

"Solid text printing and stellar photo reproduction, together with a comprehensive feature set, make this a great buy."

Canon PIXMA MG6150 ★★★★★

Price: £100 **Reviewed:** Issue 227
Full review: www.techradar.com/719361
Key specs: Six-tank inkjet; touch-sensitive controls
⊕ Comprehensive connectivity; stellar print quality
⊖ Could be faster

HP Photosmart 7510 ★★★★½

Price: £250 **Reviewed:** Issue 232
Key specs: Multifunction inkjet printer
Full review: www.techradar.com/1042424
⊕ Solid and robust, with a stellar print quality
⊖ Lacks one or two features

DISPLAYS

Thunderbolt Display

★★★★☆

Price: £899 **Reviewed:** Issue 241
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full rev: www.techradar.com/1037021
Key specs: 2560x1440 pixel resolution, 178° viewing angle (horizontal and vertical), 12ms response time

⊕ Single-cable convenience; daisy-chaining Thunderbolt connectivity
⊖ Height not adjustable; very expensive; limited compatibility

"It's an excellent monitor, but only if you use a Thunderbolt-equipped Mac. Despite its quality, it's far too expensive."

EIZO FORIS FS2331 ★★★★★

Price: £342 **Reviewed:** Issue 237
Full review: MF Issue 237 group test
Key specs: Good value mid-range monitor
⊕ Good text reproduction; excellent for gamers
⊖ No major drawbacks to speak of

Samsung FX2490HD ★★★★☆

Price: £294 **Reviewed:** Issue 230
Full review: www.techradar.com/908753
Key specs: 24-inch LED screen, 1,920x1,280 res
⊕ Great screen, good audio, includes TV tuner
⊖ Lacks adjustability, pricey and lacks HD channels

AUDIO DEVICES

Revo K2

★★★★★

Price: £300 **Reviewed:** Issue 243
Web: www.revo.co.uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/1048526
Key specs: Drivers 4x5.8cm; Output 40W; DAB/DAB+, FM, Internet Radio, iOS dock, AUX, streaming audio

⊕ Excellent sound; extremely versatile; small footprint; looks great
⊖ We've nothing significant to complain about here

"An excellent blend of form and function, the Revo K2 looks as good as it sounds. It's really easy to use too."

Creative Recon3D Omega ★★★★½

Price: £210 **Reviewed:** Issue 241
Full review: www.techradar.com/1030276
Key specs: 50mm drivers, 2.4GHz wireless
⊕ Convincing 3D soundscape; easy to set up
⊖ Mixed results from Scout Mode

Fidelio SoundSphere ★★★★★

Price: £699 **Reviewed:** Issue 243
Full review: www.techradar.com/1049034
Key specs: Max output 50W+50W; AirPlay
⊕ Easy to set up; amazing sound quality
⊖ Very expensive; tweeters vulnerable to damage

DIGITAL CAMERAS

Canon IXUS 220HS

★★★★★

Price: £144 **Reviewed:** Issue 235
Web: www.canon.co.uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/932082
Key specs: 12.1MP resolution; 4.3-21.5mm lens f/2.7-f/5.9; electronic viewfinder 2.7-inch LCD with 230,000 dots

⊕ Stylish, tough steel body; easy to carry; high quality images
⊖ LCD reflections in the sun

"Even at lower settings, this camera impresses with the detail it captures. A good choice for snapping social events."

Samsung NX100 ★★★★☆

Price: £249 **Reviewed:** Issue 239
Full review: www.techradar.com/913705
Key specs: 14.6MP; 20-50mm lens, f3.5-5.6; 340g
⊕ Powerful and flexible; very good photos
⊖ No in-camera stabilisation; a few compromises

Panasonic Lumix DMC-G3 ★★★★☆

Price: £470 **Reviewed:** Issue 243
Full review: Issue 243 Group Test
Key specs: 15.8MP Live MOS; 3-inch screen
⊕ Easy to use; produces great images
⊖ Might be a little daunting for beginners

DIGITAL VIDEO CAMERAS

Sony HDR-CX115E

★★★★★

Price: £263 **Reviewed:** Issue 233
Web: www.sony.co.uk
Full review: MF Issue 233 group test
Key specs: 1920x1080 resolution; 2.7-inch LCD; covers MPEG4-AVC and H.264 recording formats

⊕ Excellent all-round performance, and a compact, portable form factor
⊖ There are cheaper camcorders around

"The Sony provides you with all you'd want from a camcorder, with excellent build, features and quality."

Canon HV30 ★★★★½

Price: £835 **Reviewed:** Issue 201
Full review: www.techradar.com/468942
Key specs: HDV; DIGIC II processor; MiniDV/SD card
⊕ Superb stills and video; better than HDD
⊖ Cumbersome to use

Samsung VP-HMX 20C ★★★★☆

Price: £375 **Reviewed:** Issue 202
Full review: www.techradar.com/528224
Key specs: 2.7-inch LCD; movie capture at 2.1MP
⊕ Good screen; lightweight; offers full HD
⊖ Really need to shop around for price

ROUTERS/NETWORKING

AVM FRITZ!Box 7390

★★★★★

Price: £210 **Reviewed:** Issue 229
Web: www.fritzbox.eu
Full review: www.techradar.com/912929
Key specs: 802.11n, g, b and a; dual band 2.4GHz and 5GHz; power consumption 6-8 watts; integrated DECT base station

⊕ Packed with features, including dual band wireless 'n'; very fast
⊖ Expensive, especially if you don't want the telephony functions

"Fast and feature-rich, the FRITZ!Box 7390 could transform your home network. Great traffic-shaping features too."

Devolo dLAN 500 AVplus ★★★★½

Price: £120 **Reviewed:** Issue 241
Full review: www.techradar.com/1037426
Key specs: 500mbps homeplug networking
⊕ Easy to set up and use; versatile; fast speeds
⊖ A little bulky for some skirting boards

Cisco Linksys E4200 ★★★★☆

Price: £123 **Reviewed:** Issue 237
Full review: www.techradar.com/938920
Key specs: Six Wi-Fi antennas, four Ethernet ports
⊕ Traffic management features; good range
⊖ No built-in modem

STORAGE

Iomega Mac Companion

★★★★☆

Price: £170 **Reviewed:** Issue 241
Web: www.iomega.com
Full rev: www.techradar.com/1037051
Key specs: 2TB capacity; FireWire 800 or USB 2.0; charges your iOS device from side-mounted high-powered port

⊕ Charges an iPad; robust and attractive; fast 7200rpm drive
⊖ Sync OR fast charge, depending on whether you use FW or USB

"A sleek, high-capacity drive with exciting features that are more than just gimmicks. Looks great under an iMac."

Seagate GoFlex Satellite ★★★★☆

Price: £170 **Reviewed:** Issue 240
Full review: www.techradar.com/1029702
Key specs: 500GB; Wi-Fi g/n connectivity
⊕ Stream media and docs to Mac and iOS over Wi-Fi
⊖ No internet bridging

DataTraveler Locker+ 8GB ★★★★½

Price: £11 **Reviewed:** Issue 232
Full review: www.techradar.com/930867
Key specs: 256-bit AES security
⊕ Password-protects your data; good price
⊖ Can't function without its launcher app

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Writeroom 3.0

★★★★★

Price: £7 **Reviewed:** Issue 242
Web: http://hogbaysoftware.com
Full review: http://bit.ly/vKPlFX
System reqs: A Mac with an Intel procesor is required; This latest version of Writeroom also demands OS X 10.7 Lion.

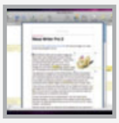
⊕ Great app for writers; default theme now very smart; save and share
⊖ No direct markdown support

"Elegant and simple, Writeroom 3.0 is a perfectly balanced and indispensable part of any Mac writer's toolkit."

MS Office for Mac 2011 ★★★★☆

Price: From £76 **Reviewed:** Issue 228
Full review: www.techradar.com/903277
System reqs: OS X 10.5.8 or later; Intel Mac
⊕ Cheaper and faster than 2008; new features
⊖ No upgrade pricing

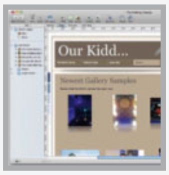
Nisus Writer Pro 2 ★★★★★



Price: £49 **Reviewed:** Issue 237
Full review: www.techradar.com/974528
System reqs: OS X 10.4 or later
⊕ Clean, fast and stable; EPUB export
⊖ Nisus Writer Express might be enough

VISUAL TOOLS & LAYOUT

Freeway 5.5 Pro



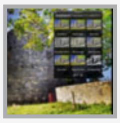
★★★★★

Price: £155 **Reviewed:** Issue 230
Web: www.softpress.com
Full review: www.techradar.com/919171
System reqs: Mac OS X 10.5 or higher; Intel or PowerPC processor; Tiger users can run Version 5.4.3

⊕ Powerful layout controls; built-in web image optimising; new features
⊖ Weak HTML import; only one undo

"Freeway 5.5 Pro is great for website design work, and doesn't ask for a degree in coding first."

Ohanaware HDRtist Pro ★★★★★



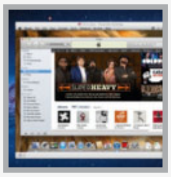
Price: £20 **Reviewed:** Issue 235
Full review: www.techradar.com/954888
System reqs: Mac OS X 10.5 or later; 1GB RAM
⊕ Great value for money; ideal for novices
⊖ No zoom function for fine detail

Photoshop Elements 10 ★★★★½

Price: £79 **Reviewed:** Issue 240
Full review: www.techradar.com/1027864
System reqs: OS X 10.5.8+, Intel Mac
⊕ Powerful organiser; good for all skill levels
⊖ Search tools imprecise; few major enhancements

SYSTEM UTILITIES

Parallels Desktop 7



★★★★★

Price: £65 **Reviewed:** Issue 240
Web: www.parallels.com/uk
Full review: http://bit.ly/rHoJoP
System reqs: OS X 10.5.8 or later; Intel processor; 2GB RAM; sufficient hard drive space for additional OS

⊕ More flexible than Boot Camp; Coherence Mode is very useful
⊖ Convenience Store a little lacking in content

"If you need to run Windows or Linux on a Mac, Parallels Desktop 7 is a great way to set about it. Powerful and fast."

Roxio Toast 11 Titanium ★★★★½

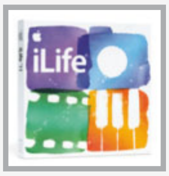
Price: £85 **Reviewed:** Issue 233
Full review: www.techradar.com/936399
System reqs: OS X 10.5 or later, Intel Mac
⊕ Great new features, slick new interface
⊖ Fickle VIDEO_TS conversion

Default Folder X 4.4 ★★★★½

Price: £25 **Reviewed:** Issue 241
Full review: http://bit.ly/tmJy5o
System reqs: OS X 10.5 or later; PPC or Intel Mac
⊕ Time-saving features; customisable shortcuts
⊖ You might not use all its features

MULTIMEDIA SOFTWARE

Apple iLife '11



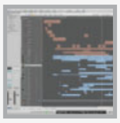
★★★★½

Price: £46 **Reviewed:** Issue 229
Web: www.apple.com/uk
Full review: www.techradar.com/909657
System reqs: Intel processor; 1GB RAM; Mac OS X 10.6.3 or later; 5GB HDD space; display, min. 1280x768-pixel resolution.

⊕ Great new features for iPhoto, iMovie and GarageBand
⊖ iDVD and iWeb not updated; the iLife suite is now Snow Leopard-only

"It's a pity iLife '11 is Intel-only, but as PowerPC Macs were discontinued in 2006, it's probably time to let go."

Apple Logic Studio ★★★★★



Price: £417 **Reviewed:** Issue 213
Full review: www.techradar.com/625541
System reqs: Intel Mac; 1GB RAM; Mac OS X 10.5.7
⊕ Powerful music studio; great tools; good value
⊖ Some minor bugs in the initial release

Anime Studio Debut 8 ★★★★½

Price: £27 **Reviewed:** Issue 239
Full review: http://bit.ly/tbw19J
System reqs: 256MB RAM; OS X 10.5 or later
⊕ Great animation toolset; new Character Wizard
⊖ Interface still odd-looking

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We give iTunes Match the long-term test it demands

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HOW TO...

- Use QuickTime X to the full
- Have more fun with your videos
- Edit photos on your iPhone

ALL THIS AND MORE!

* Contents subject to change

Mac User Groups

Find fellow Mac enthusiasts near you! Here's a list of the UK & Ireland MUGs

[1] Aberdeen MUG
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davidjearly@mac.com
www.abdnmug.co.uk

[2] Bristol & Bath MUG
Bath
info@bbmug.co.uk
www.bbmug.co.uk

[3] Berkshire & North Hampshire MUG
Reading area
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[4] Bracknell Forest MUG
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office@bfmug.org
www.bfmug.org

[5] ClubMac Ireland
Dublin
secretary@clubmac.ie
www.clubmac.ie

[6] Cork University College
Cork
d.murphy@cs.ucc.ie
www.ucc.ie/mug

[7] Cumbria Mac Enthusiasts
Barrow-in-Furness
contact@macenthusiasts.co.uk
www.macenthusiasts.co.uk

[8] Deaf Mac Users
Website group for the hard of hearing
nick@sturley.co.uk
http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/deaf-macs/

[9] Edinburgh MUG
Edinburgh
admin@edmug.org.uk
www.edmug.org.uk

[10] Exeter MUG
Exeter
examug@mac.com
www.examug.org.uk

[11] Glasgow MUG
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www.glasmug.com

[12] Harlech MUG
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[13] Fife MUG
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johnvandieken@gmail.com
www.famus.co.uk

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secretary@lmug.org
www.lmug.org.uk

[15] Midlands MUG
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www.mmug.org.uk

[16] North West Mac Group
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www.nwmug.co.uk

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Norwich
norwichmacusergroup@mac.com

[18] OxMUG
Oxford
www.oxmug.org

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Wickford, Essex
chairman@seal-apple.co.uk
www.seal-apple.co.uk

[20] South Wales MUG
Cardiff
swmug@applewiz.biz
www.swmug.org.uk

[21] Sneem MUG
Sneem
sean@smug.ie
www.smug.ie

[22] Stroud Mac User Group
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jmuy@aol.com

[23] Suffolk Mac User Group
Ipswich
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suffolkmacusergroup.co.uk

[24] Swindon MUG
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swindonmacusergroup@googlemail.com
http://swindonmacusergroup.googlepages.com

[25] Surrey MUG
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[26] Three Counties MUG
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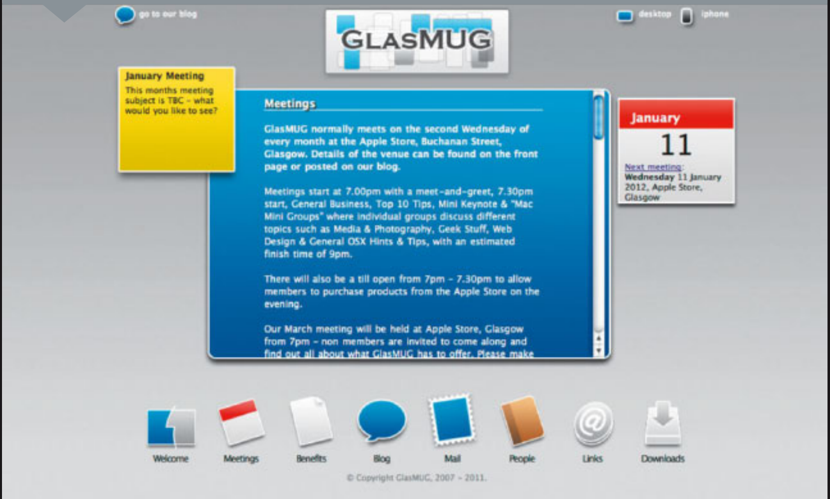
MUG OF THE MONTH / Glasgow



January Meeting
This months meeting subject is TBC - what would you like to see?

Meetings

GlasMUG normally meets on the second Wednesday of every month at the Apple Store, Buchanan Street, Glasgow. Details of the venue can be found on the front page or posted on our blog.

Meetings start at 7.00pm with a meet-and-greet, 7.30pm start, General Business, Top 10 Tips, Mini Keynote & "Mac Mini Groups" where individual groups discuss different topics such as Media & Photography, Geek Stuff, Web Design & General OSX Hints & Tips, with an estimated finish time of 9pm.

There will also be a till open from 7pm - 7.30pm to allow members to purchase products from the Apple Store on the evening.

Our March meeting will be held at Apple Store, Glasgow from 7pm – non members are invited to come along and find out all about what GlasMUG has to offer. Please make

January
11
Next meeting:
Wednesday 11 January 2012, Apple Store, Glasgow

The Glasgow Mac User Group (GlasMUG for short) serves Apple enthusiasts in the city of Glasgow. It's one of the few Mac User Groups to have its meetings at a bricks-and-mortar Apple Store - in this case the one on Buchanan Street. Everybody is welcome to attend and meetings start at 7pm. To find out when the next meeting is, check out the group's website at **www.glasmug.com**. The latest meeting features a demo of *iMovie* by one of the regulars. It's the place to be for Apple tips in Glasgow!

[27] Wessex MUGs
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www.wamug.org.uk

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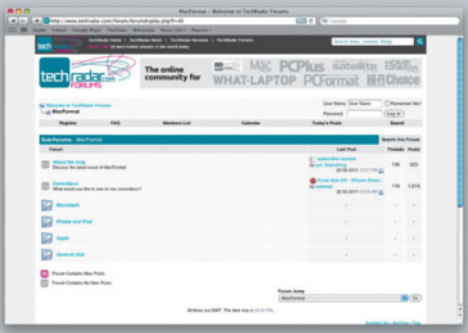
NEW STARTER

START YOUR OWN MUG

If you're planning on starting up a new MUG in your area, or you have recently set one up, let us know and we'll print the details here. Email **macformat@futurenet.com**

No local user group?



Try our forums...

If you haven't got a local Mac user group then try our forums at **www.macformat.co.uk/forums**. There you'll have the chance to talk about all things Apple and get answers to any questions you may have from a decent bunch of like-minded Apple users.

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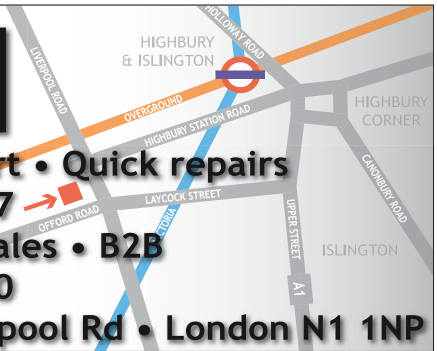

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One more thing...

Bring it back home

Should Apple kit be made in the US as well as designed there?

Here's an interesting snippet: Apple's A5, the processor at the heart of the iPad 2 and iPhone 4S, is made in Texas. But, it's not Apple's doing – Apple subcontracts its hardware manufacturing, and the subcontractor in this case is Samsung. So, what this means is a key Apple component is being made in the good ol' US of A.

The reason that's newsworthy, of course, is because most Apple kit isn't made in America: the key components are made by Asian firms and the devices are assembled by firms such as China's Foxconn. Apple designs and markets its products from California, but its supply chain stretches halfway across the globe.

For me, that takes some of the shine off my Apple joy. Wouldn't it be great if buying Apple meant buying good products, not just in an "it just works" sense, but in a karmic sense too? I'm no bleeding heart, but I try to avoid products that come with a hefty dose of bad karma. I think kids' clothes should mean clothes made for kids, not by kids. When I buy food I prefer to have free-range and corn-fed chickens rather than those kept in shoeboxes or mechanically recovered. And when I buy electronics I'd rather they weren't made in sweatshops.

When Steve Jobs said that Foxconn's factories were "pretty nice", he didn't mean this in Western terms. Western factories provide decent wages, holidays and pensions, and their buildings aren't fitted with safety nets to catch people that might jump out of top floor windows. That isn't cheap – and Apple, like the rest of the electronics industry, likes cheap.

> "I'm no bleeding heart, but I try to avoid products that come with a hefty dose of bad karma"

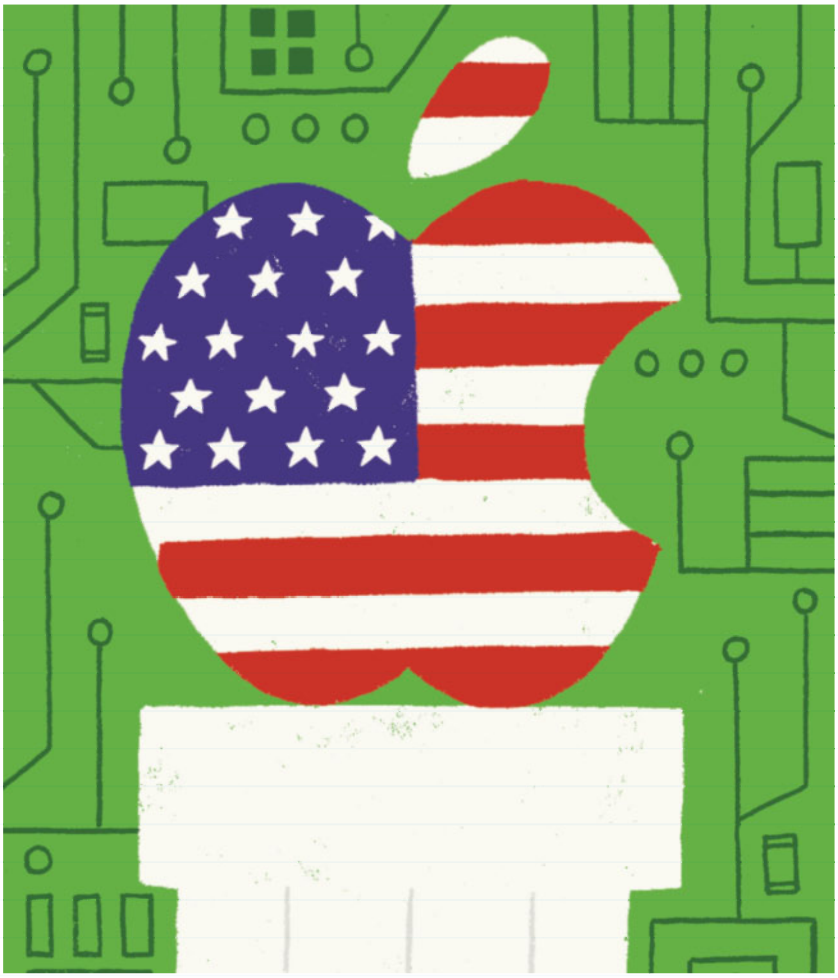

Illustration: Matthew Hams

I think that's odd. Apple likes to control everything, yet outsourcing exposes it to multiple risks: industrial espionage, the risk of countries' economies going down the pan, and the risk of natural disasters, such as the floods that devastated Thailand in 2011.

Apple has extraordinary profit margins and tens of billions in cash, and in recent years its profit margins have increased considerably. According to Bloomberg, Apple's profit margin "has more than doubled [in] the last five years, spurred by its smartphones and tablets."

In other words, Apple can afford to bring some of its manufacturing work home.

I've lived and worked in towns where industries died, and the effects reverberated way beyond the steelworks and shipyards: the people who worked in those places spent their money locally on food and drink, nights out, clothes, taxis, houses and things to put in their houses. When the plants shut, many local businesses shut too.

The same thing can happen in reverse, though. Samsung's A5 processor plant means that 1,100 Texans are taking home paycheques, paying Texan taxes and patronising Texan businesses. There's more to it than money, I know – few firms can manufacture products in the numbers Apple now demands – but wouldn't it be great if more Apple kit was made closer to home? ●

Frustrated rock star and journalist Gary Marshall says Logic Pro is the best. "Soon my concept album about electric elves will be done!" he says, alarmingly.

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